Yorkshire Naturalists' Union

BIRD REPORT for 1994-95

Compiled by W. F. CURTIS

Duplicate copies available from:
J. E. DALE, 158 LINDLEY MOOR ROAD, HUDDERSFIELD HD3 3UE
(Price £3.75 (for orders by post add 50p)

Yorkshire Naturalists' Union Subscriptions

Members	£15.00 per annum
Senior Citizens	£10.00 per annum
Associate Members	£5.00 per annum
Affiliated Societies	£20.00 per annum

Individuals or Societies interested in joining the Union are requested to contact:-

The Membership Secretary,
Mr. R. Comley,
1 Highfield Rise,
Stannington,
Sheffield S6 6BS

or

The Hon. Treasurer,
Mr. J. A. Newbould,
Tapton House,
30 Moorlands,
Wickersley,
Rotherham S66 1AT

Front cover: Black Kite over Spurn, May 1995 by Yuri Gabrilovich

Yorkshire Naturalists' Union Ornithological Section

Officers:

Chairman of the Ornithological General Committee: J. E. Dale, Huddersfield.

Secretary of the Ornithological General Committee: M. Densley, Shipley.

Reports Committee:

Chairman: J. E. Dale, 158 Lindley Moor Road, Lindley Moor, Huddersfield. Tel: 01484 652453

Secretary N. J. Morgan, "Linden", Church View, Ainderby Steeple, Northallerton. Tel: 01609 770168

Editor: W. F. Curtis, "Farm Cottage", Church Lane, Atwick, Great Driffield. Tel: 01964 532477

Vice-County Recorders:

VC61: (Until 31 Dec 1997). I. Forsyth, 65 Priory Road, Cottingham, Hull HU16 4RR.
(From 1 Jan 1998). G. E. Dobbs, 12 Park Avenue, Princess Avenue, Hull HU5 3ER. Tel: 01482 341524

VC62: D. Bywater, 2 High Moor Way, Eastfield, Scarborough. Tel: 01723 582619

VC63: (Until 31 Dec 1996). J. McLouglin, 8 Harrison Grove, Harrogate.
(From 1 Jan. 1997). J. E. Dale, 158 Lindley Moor Road, Lindley Moor, Huddersfield. Tel: 01484 652453

VC64: S. P. Singleton, 61 Parkland Drive, Leeds LS6 4PP. Tel: 0113 682473

VC65: N. P. Morgan, "Linden", Church View, Ainderby Steeple, Northallerton. Tel: 01609 770168.

Reports for 1994 and 1995 Compiled and Edited by W. F. Curtis.

A total of 308 species was recorded in the County during the two years covered by this Report; 285 in 1994 and 291 in 1995. Of these, some 151 were proven to have bred in one, or both, of those years, whilst a further four may have done so. Three species were recorded for the first time in Yorkshire; in 1994, Blyth's Pipit at Flamborough and Lanceolated Warbler at Filey whilst, in 1995, a Citrine Wagtail, long over-due, was seen at Filey. Two other species, Falcated Duck, at Blacktoft Sands, and Pallas's Rosefinch, at Pateley Bridge, were recorded but, whilst their identification is not doubted, their origin is thus admittance to the British List and so the Yorkshire List, is still under review.

Generally spreaking the status of breeding birds was one of an increase. The Black-necked Grebe "colony" at the Lower Derwent National Nature Reserve is now well established with, in both years, good success. At this location the efforts of the management bodies have shown excellent results with increases in the numbers of breeding wildfowl and waders particularly those of Wigeon; Teal; Shoveler; Gadwall; Tufted Duck; Common Snipe; Curlew and Lapwing. Of the rarer species breeding there the outlook was also good with both Garganey and Pintail increasing whilst Ruff bred successfully and, in 1995, Black-tailed Godwit was also successful. Elsewhere, in the County, Avocets continued to increase at Blacktoft Sands; Red-breasted Merganser bred for the ninth successive year, at Redmires, but once again, failed to rear any young; breeding was not attempted in 1995. Goosander continues to consolidate and spread despite legalised culling at one location. Ruddy Duck continues its relentless occupation of fresh locations. The two introduced geese, Grey lag and Canada, both continue to increase though the latter may be at a slower rate that of late. Barnacle Goose no doubt bred

ferally but actual details were not forthcoming. In 1994, Cormorant bred inland for the first time in the County, a trend continued in 1995.

Birds of prey all increased, some species against great odds. Buzzard continues to move away from the higher ground towards the more agricultural east whilst Marsh Harrier shows some indication of a "break-out" from the Humber Estuary. Peregrine also continues to increase; the instances of birds using the high structures of power stations is increasing as is their frequency, during the breeding season, of using coastal cliffs though breeding has not, as yet, been reported from either habitat. Hobby bred, during both years, in the southeast; Goshawk is thought to be on the increase though details here are very sketchy. The lone pair of Honey Buzzards reared young in both years. Corncrake bred in 1994 and may even have done so in 1995 although at a different location; Quail alomost certainly bred in both years. Little Terns nested in record numbers at Kilnsea but with extremely poor results owing to inclement weather conditions and predation. Both Grey Wagtail and Lesser Spotted Woodpecker give indications of a slow spread into the northwestern part of VC61 whilst Nightingale maintains its toe-hold in the Doncaster area. Fieldfare bred near Richmond; Black Redstart bred, as usual, in urban Sheffield but also, in 1994, near Flamborough. In 1994, Reed Warbler bred near Semer Water for the first time in almost 60 years and, in 1995, bred at South Gare thus extending its northern range in the County. Also in 1995, Firecrest bred for the first time, in the County, to the west of Sheffield. Common Rosefinch held territory, in 1995, and may have bred and, finally, although few details were received, Raven is considered to be increasing slowly. Owing to lack of details from the Bempton RSPB Reserve comments cannot be made concerning the breeding status of birds there but, in the absence of reports to the contrary, it is assumed all are doing well.

Of the non-breeding birds, White-billed Diver continued its' annual occurrence whilst Little Shearwater was reported in both years; Cory's Shearwater was seen in record numbers in 1995 which was also an excellent year for Great Shearwater. An immature Black-browed Albatross which passed Flamborough in 1995 was not the Hermaness bird. Herons were well represented with, in 1994, Squacco; Little Egret; Great White Egret and Purple and, in 1995, Night; Purple and Little Egret whilst Spoonbill was seen in both years plus both species of stork in 1995. Ruddy Shelduck appeared in both years as did Mandarin Duck; Ring-necked Duck; Red-crested Pochard and Surf Scoter whilst in 1995, a female Blue-winged Teal was reported. Both species of kite were recorded in both years whilst Montagu's Harrier occurred more frequently than of late. Common Crane occurred in both years with Spotted Crake being quite widespread in 1995. Of the waders, Kentish Plover; American Golden Plover; Stone Curlew; Pectoral Sandpiper and Grey Phalarope were recorded in both years with, in 1994, Spotted Sandpiper, and, in 1995, White-rumped Sandpiper; Baird's Sandpiper; Great Snipe; Long - billed Dowitcher and Red-necked Phalarope. Three Ross's Gulls were recorded in 1995 along with a Franklin's Gull and record numbers of Little Gulls. The Lesser Crested Tern that was reported during both years was no doubt the bird from the Farne Islands. In 1994, a Bridled Tern put in two appearances with a White-winged Black Tern, one with, in 1995, single Gull-billed and Whiskered Terns. Exceptional numbers of Little Auks were also reported in 1995. Alpine Swifts; Bee-eaters; Richard's and Red-throated Pipits were present during both years; Short-toed Lark; Olive-backed and Pechora Pipit in 1994 and, in 1995, Cliff Swallow; Thrush Nightingale and Black-throated Thrush. Representing the warblers; Marsh; Dusky; Arctic and Pallas's turned up in both years whilst in 1995 only, Subalpine and Greenish were reported. Yellow-browed Warblers of the race known colloquially as Hume's Yellow-browed were found in both years. Woodchat Shrike was present in 1994; Rose-coloured Starling in both years; Serin in 1995; Arctic Redpoll in both years with a very large influx occurring in 1995 whilst, of the buntings; Rustic was noted in both 1994 and 1995 whilst Little and Yellow-breasted occurred in 1994.

Of the more common and widespread species several occurred in record numbers, particularly waterfowl at the Lower Derwent National Nature Reserve whilst several species of gull were reported in very large numbers. Several passerines, especially in 1995, arrived very early whilst two departed extremely late.

One point that should be mentioned is that recently some criticism has been forthcoming

concerning the publication in these Reports of records of rare or unusual birds which have not been submitted to the ***British Birds Rarities Committee*** and, very occasionally, records that have been rejected by that Committee. The YNU discussed this situation some years ago, the outcome being that it was agreed to publish all records submitted to them with a covering caveat. It is fully intended to continue with that policy providing the YNU are convinced that the record is correct in all aspects.

The 1995 Report includes, for the first time since 1973, records from parts of the County of Cleveland that lie south of the River Tees. Prior to 1974 this area was part of North Yorkshire and remains an integral part of VC62. Since 1962 the Teesmouth Bird Club have produced an annual report, which in 1974 became the County of Cleveland Bird Report. Records included in the forthcoming pages have been extracted from their 1995 Report courtesy of Teesmouth Bird Club. This decision has further implications which will be reviewed by the Reports Committee with reference to future reports as at the time of writing further re-organization of administrative boundaries has already taken place.

The editor wishes to apologise for the inordinate delay in the appearance of this Report. Full reasons were explained to the Ornithological General Committee at the time and he wishes to express his gratitude for their understanding and forebearance. He also wishes to thank the various VC Recorders for their assistance with this Report and for the help and tolerance of the many Recorders; Secretaries and Officers of the many local Societies who have supplied information when requested.

Bill Curtis. September 1998.

Classified List

All rare and unusual species in this Report have been considered by the Reports Committee and, unless otherwise specified, found acceptable on the written evidence supplied by the observers. Where applicable, records have been accepted by the *British Birds Rarities Committee* (***BBRC***) unless otherwise stated. The sequence and nomenclature used is that of *Voous K. H., List of Recent Holarctic Bird Species* (1973 and 1977) B.O.U. 1977.

In this Classified List the following abbreviations have been used:-

LDNNR	Lower Derwent National Nature Reserve
TLNR	Tophill Low Nature Reserve
BLPNR	Beacon Lane Ponds Nature Reserve
RVCP	Rother Valley Country Park
Res.	Reservoir
GP	Gravel Pit
SF/SW	Sewage Farm/Sewage Works
CP	Country Park
NR	Nature Reserve
NP	National Park

Red-throated Diver *Gavia stellata*

1994: In general a poor year along the coast with peak daily counts at Spurn and Filey being 43 and 72 respectively. Flamborough, as usual, reported slightly higher numbers with maxima of 134 on 13th February, 225 on 5th and 160 on 6th March then 104 on 22nd October. 48 passed Whitestone Point on 16th October. Inland; single birds along the LDNNR, at Aughton on 2nd and East Cottingwith on 30th January.

1995: More numerous than the previous year. Maxima along the coast were 143 at Spurn on 17th March; 120 on the sea off Grimston on 9th February with 327 on the 18th; 161 north at Barmston on 16th and 238 north there on 20th February with 115 on 29th March. In January, at Flamborough, 327 on 3rd; 224 on 12th and 170 on 14th then 200 on 18th February; slightly less frequent during the latter months but 122 on 4th November then, in December, 287 on 2nd, 196 on 9th and 145 on 24th. Maxima at Filey were 107 on 28th January and 109 on 2nd December. Occasionally in summer with maximum of seven off Flamborough on 17th June. Inland; singles at TLNR between 24th and 31st December; Seamer Road Mere [Scarborough] on 27th/28th January and Scaling Dam on 13th March; Southfield Res. on 26th/27th January. One east at Blacktoft Sands on 1st December; one at Nosterfield GP also on 1st December and at Fairburn Ings from 3rd to 5th.

Black-throated Diver *Gavia artica*

1994: Small numbers along the coast between January-April and September-October excepting singles at Spurn on 8th and 28th May; Flamborough on 1st June and Sandsend [still in winter plumage] on 5th June. The bulk of the coastal records were of single birds but two occasionally at Long Nab; Sandsend; Cloughton Wyke and Flamborough whilst three were at Flamborough on 29th October and four there on 19th November. Four also at Ness Point on 12th November, two remaining to the following day. Inland; single birds at Harthill Res. from the 5th to 9th February and Nosterfield from the 4th to 14th.

1995: One or two occasionally at most well-watched coastal locations during the early months but up to three off Staithes from 22nd January into March and up to three off Whitby from 8th to 15th January. Four were at Flamborough on 11th January with three there on 27th. Four at Cromer Point on 30th March. More frequent at most locations during the latter months with up to three at several locations; four at Flamborough on 30th September and 24th December whilst six were at Spurn on 3rd November. Singles in early summer at Spurn on 28th May; at Flamborough on 20th May and 3rd June and at Hornsea on 8th June. Inland; one commuted between Anglers' CP and Horbury Millfield Lagoons from 20th to 29th January; one at Leventhorpe Ash Ponds on 22nd January with one at Lowther Lake from 4th to 10th December.

Great Northern Diver *Gavia immer*

1994: A below average year with only three single birds at Spurn and slightly more frequent but again, only singles, north of Scarborough. Two at Flamborough on 5th October otherwise singles there on only seven other days. One in Filey Bay on 18th November was seen frequently to the end of the year with two on 20th November; 20th, 27th and 30th December and three from the 24th to 27th November.

1995: Singles occasionally at South Gare; Cromer Point; Filey; Flamborough; Barmston; Hornsea; Grimston and Spurn. Two at South Gare from 15th to 22nd January; Cromer Point on 3rd March; Filey on seven days in January, 5th November and 27th December; Flamborough on 1st, 3rd, 6th and 17th November; 2nd, 27th and 31st December. Two at Barmston on 3rd November. Three at Flamborough on 4th November. Recorded during the early summer with singles at Flamborough and Filey on 10th June and Filey on the 15th.

White-billed Diver *Gavia adamsii*

1994: An adult female, in summer plumage, found dead at Cornelian Bay on 15th October (BC). The specimen has been preserved being in the J. R. Mather collection.

[A large diver which flew north off Flamborough on 21st May showed several features of this species though the views obtained were not conclusive (BR: DB)]

1995: An adult, in winter plumage, flew north at Flamborough on 3rd November (DB: PAL)

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

1994: In VC61, 13 pairs bred at Wheldrake Ings where seven broods totalled 18 young; two pairs at Filey Dams with no other reports of breeding [considered to be drastically under-reported]. In VC62; two pairs at Brandsby; two at Burton Riggs and two at Wykeham. In VC63; six pairs at Thrybergh CP and 11 pairs at Broomhill Ings may have been included in the totals for the Doncaster area of 30 pairs at 14 locations and for the Sheffield area of 24 pairs at 11 locations. Eight pairs at Wintersett Res. At least 22 pairs bred in VC64 though exact details are unknown whilst, in VC65, breeding occurred at Bolton-on-Swale; Scorton Quarry; Nosterfield GP.; Pallet Hill and Kirby Fleetham. The largest gatherings outwith the breeding season were 19 on the R. Aire near Shipley on 20th December and 20 at Leventhorpe Ash Ponds during September.

1995: A total of 30 pairs reported breeding in VC61 with 23 at the LDNNR, three at Filey Dams and one each at Spurn; Grimston; North Cave and Burstwick. In VC62, 13 pairs reported with five at Wykeham; three at Brandsby; two at Burton Riggs and one each at Gilling; Stearsby and Wiganthorpe. An estimated 114 pairs bred successfully in VC63 at some 35 to 40 locations including 30 pairs at Wintersett Res. 28 pairs in VC64 [not including Fairburn Ings] with 14 of these being in the Harrogate area, a 100% increase on 1994. Bred at five locations in VC65 [numbers not reported]. The largest non-breeding numbers reported were 35+ at the LDNNR in late December; 33 at Broomhill Ings on 22nd July and 21 at Nosterfield GP on 7th October.

Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus*

1994: Under-reported in VC61 with the only recorded breeding being at Wheldrake Ings where five pairs rearing 11 young. Ten pairs bred in VC62, three being at Castle Howard. 16 pairs in the Doncaster area with 29 pairs around Sheffield [again duplication may occur with Broomhill and Thrybergh]; elsewhere in VC63, five pairs at Wintersett Res.. 36 pairs in VC64 though success in the Leeds area was poor with 15 young being reared from 15 pairs. Nine pairs in VC65 including five at Scorton Quarry. Maxima reported were 25 at Swillington Ings during February and May with 28 at Nosterfield GP in May. Few were reported this year from the coast south of Bridlington.

1995: Still under-reported in VC61 where five pairs bred at the LDNNR [three failed], two at Pulfin Bog and one at TLNR [failed]. Five pairs at Wykeham, VC62, with two at Seamer Road Mere; two at Burton Riggs and one each at Gilling; Rawcliffe Lake and Wiganthorpe. Success in this VCwas poor due to low water levels. *c.*60 pairs bred in VC63 though only about 30 were successful, again due to low water levels, whilst in VC64 some 36 pairs also had

mixed success for the same reason. Eight pairs bred in VC65 at four locations. Maxima outside the breeding season were 39 at Malham Tarn on 21st August; up to 64 at Swillington Ings in September where up to 70 were present in December; 72 at Wintersett Res. on 20th November. On the coast between 30 and 80 were present along the stretch between Fraisthorpe and Skipsea during both winter periods.

Red-necked Grebe *Podiceps grisegena*

1994: A poor early year along the coast; singles being reported from Filey from the 1st to 20th January and 9th February; at Flamborough on 9th January and 6th February. One on the R. Esk between Whitby and Ruswarp from 17th to 26th February. During the latter months, one at Filey on 12th August thence on 31 further occasions to the years' end with two on 13th/14th September plus birds south there on 14th and 15th. Flamborough reported singles on 20th August; five days in September; three in October and on the 25th November with two on the 16th September. Singles were at Spurn on 19th September; 5th November and 3rd December. Inland, one at North Duffield from 12th to 14th January; Nosterfield GP from 16th January to 20th February; TLNR on 29th March and from 16th September to 4th October; Wintersett Res. on 27th April; Ringstone Edge Res. on 8th May and Wheldrake Ings on 18th November. Two [adult plus juvenile] at TLNR on 26th July.

1995: Relatively scarce in the early months with singles at Lockwood Beck Res. then Scaling Dam, from 14th January to 27th April. Singles occasionally at South Gare; Whitby; Redcar; Filey; Flamborough; Barmston; Spurn and Sunk Island, with two on the R. Esk between Ruswarp and Whitby on 6th January; two at Barmston on 12th May; two at Flamborough on 3rd January with five there on the 12th. Much more numerous during the latter months with singles quite frequently at most coastal locations. Two occasionally at Filey; Barmston; Flamborough and Hornsea whilst up to three were in Scarborough Harbour during late December; three at Barmston on 30th August and 13th September; three at Flamborough on 26th/27th August; 27th September; 1st and 4th November with five on the 12th and six on the 13th. One at Flamborough on 28th June. Inland; one in summer plumage at TLNR on 23rd/24th July. One at Thrybergh CP on 11th/12th January was possibly the individual seen at Wath Main Marsh on 13th and Blackmoorfoot Res. from the 14th to 24th. During the latter months, singles at Harthill Res. on 27th August; Wintersett Res. on 29th October; Eccup Res. on 4th/5th and RVCP from 5th to 8th December.

Slavonian Grebe *Podiceps auritus*

1994: A poor year with singles at Filey on 8th January and 5th October; Jackson's Bay [Scarborough] on 7th February; Redmires Res. (a juvenile) on 18th September and Swillington Ings on 20th October.

1995: A better year. During the early months, singles at Barmston on 5th January; South Gare on 14th/15th; Filey also on 15th whilst two were at Scarborough on the 6th. More frequent in the latter months. In November, singles at Scarborough and South Gare on the 2nd; Barmston on 8th; Flamborough on 18th with one inland record, at Pugneys' CP on the 11th. In December, along the coast, singles at South Gare from 10th to 13th and 21st to 23rd; Flamborough on 10th then 15th to 17th; Scarborough on 22nd; Robin Hood's Bay on 24th and Filey on 25th. Inland, singles at Wintersett Res. from 4th to 10th with another on 24th; Southfield Res. on 5th and Wheldrake Ings on the 7th.

Black-necked Grebe *Podiceps nigricollis*

1994: By late April seven pairs were located at the LDNNR but in mid June the following broods were noted; three of three, five of two and five of one with a further brood of three seen on 11th July. Away from this area, two in breeding plumage at TLNR on 2nd/3rd May with one remaining until the 9th. An adult and juvenile were present there from 10th July to 28th August with the juvenile staying until the 8th September whilst another juvenile was recorded between the 20th September and 4th October. Three, in breeding plumage, were in Filey Bay on 28th March. One flew north at Spurn on 17th April [third record for that location] whilst one at Flamborough on 14th December was only the sixth for that location. In VC63, singles were at

Potteric Carr on 24th April with another from 20th September to 18th October; an adult at Wintersett Res. on 8th September and one at Southfield Res. on the 19th. Only one record from VC64, a juvenile, at Swillington Ings on 17th September.
1995: Again bred at the LDNNR where a minimum of nine pairs reared at least 15 young. Elsewhere, one in Scarborough Harbour on 6th January; at Barmston on 8th May and Flamborough on 17th December. Inland, in VC61, two at Hornsea Mere on 7th May whilst TLNR recorded at least 11 individuals, being almost present daily from 19th April to 3rd November with three on 14th May and 6th July. Two in breeding plumage at Scaling Dam, VC62, from 17th April to 21st May. In VC63, singles at Broomhill Ings from 22nd April to 2nd May; Anglers' CP on 28th March and 5th September; Worsbrough Res. on 5th May; Pugneys' CP on 17th May and the RVCP on 5th December. Five were present at Southfield Res. on 2nd September.

Black-browed Albatross *Diomedea melanophris*
1995: An immature flew south at Flamborough on 28th September (PAL). [Not yet submitted to ***BBRC***].

Fulmar *Fulmarus glacialis*
1994: The only breeding report received was of 25 pairs at Sandsend Ness. The highest counts along the coast were at Flamborough with maxima of 6050 on 16th January; 3910 on 15th March then 3800 on 12th August with 8400 on 1st September and 3700 on 14th. Thereafter few, but 1300 on 5th November and 3750 on 14th December. *c.*940 per hour passed Scarborough on 13th December whilst 900 passed north off Filey in one hour on 16th April. Inland; singles in Wykeham Forest on 21st May; west over Harrogate on 10th June; Wintersett Res. on 6th and 10th August. "Blue" phased individuals were not infrequent with several locations reporting singles but nine at Flamborough on 16th January and 21 on 18th September.
1995: No details or comments received on breeding status. Largest counts were from Flamborough and Filey with, at the former; 3200 on 18th February; 6400 on 26th then, in the latter months, 4250 on 17th November whilst Filey recorded 700 per hour south on 5th December. 2500 north at Ness Point on 28th August. Inland, up to ten, frequently, between March and July, at Roseberry Topping; seven at Bilsdale Top on 5th July whilst occasionally seen over the Wykeham Raptor Viewpoint during the summer. Singles at High Batts NR on 26th January; Blacktoft Sands on 10th June; Staveley NR on 14th July and Pugneys' CP on 16th November. "Blue" phased birds quite frequent along the coast, particularly at Flamborough, where maxima were four on 10th June; five on 28th August and six on 30th September.

Cory's Shearwater *Calonectris diomedea*
1994: At Flamborough, singles were reported on 16th, 17th and 18th July; 3rd, 10th and 28th August; 5th, 6th and 18th September with two on 11th August. Two at Spurn on 17th September.
1995: A record year at Flamborough where 18 individuals were reported with singles on 9th, 10th, 19th and 21st July plus two on the 29th. Singles in August on 5th, 7th, 8th, 17th, 19th and 24th; two on both 20th and 21st. Singles on 9th September and 9th October. (PAL: DB: BR: MN: *et al*). Singles at Spurn on 28th August and 9th September; at Filey on 29th July, 13th August and 16th September (SML; TR; JS; PMS); at Hornsea on 7th August (DM); at Staithes on 9th and 29th July (MRKA: WIB: MC) and at Scarborough on 7th August (ABD) and 11th September (RHA).
[Two unidentified large shearwaters south off Spurn on 13th August were probably this species]

Great Shearwater *Puffinus gravis*
1995: An excellent year at Flamborough though not reported from other locations. One on 23rd August then three on the 26th followed by singles on 28th, 29th and 30th; on 5th September; 21st October and 11th November.

Sooty Shearwater *Puffinus griseus*

1994: Two north off Flamborough on 16th January and one there on 11th December were unseasonal. The first of the autumn was a single at Flamborough on 23rd July followed by another both there and at Filey on the 31st. Only small numbers during August with peaks at Flamborough of 24 on 14th and 21 on 29th. September produced most records with a monthly total of 1138 passing Flamborough peaking at 209 on the 1st, 190 on 2nd, 155 on 3rd then 253 on the 14th and 100 on 18th. On the 1st, 20 were reported at Filey, 38 at Scarborough and 11 at Spurn. This last location also recorded 47 on the 14th with 49 on 15th and 95 on 17th. Few were noted in October, five at Flamborough on the 3rd with 13 there on the 5th whilst Spurn had four on the 4th and three on the 16th.

1995: Moderate year at Flamborough but quite poor at Filey. First were singles at Spurn on 23rd July, Flamborough on 26th and Filey on 29th. A total of 846 passed Flamborough in August with peaks of 132 on 26th, 313 on 28th and 112 on the 29th. The passage of the 28th was reflected at Spurn with 120; Filey 109; ten at Long Nab and 40 at Staithes. Scarce in September, only 338 at Flamborough with a peak of 80 on 28th. Elsewhere, 21 at Spurn on the 16th was the only count over ten. Few in October, 22 on 21st Flamborough being the maximum. Three at Spurn on 4th November and up to four on several days at Flamborough to the 18th.

Manx Shearwater *Puffinus puffinus*

1994: The first of the year passed Flamborough on 26th March with two there on 3rd April. Only small numbers until mid-June when 43 passed Flamborough on the 10th with 84 there the following day. In July, numbers increased with peaks there of 95 on the 2nd, 168 on the 30th and 208 on 31st. Up to 80 recorded daily in August with higher counts of 235 on 14th and 143 on the 31st. In early September, higher totals were reported, in association with strong northerly winds, when 317 passed on the 1st, 210 on 2nd, 796 on 3rd and 175 on 4th; thereafter only small numbers excepting 215 on the 14th. Elsewhere, 70 flew north at Staithes on the 1st with 212 north at Long Nab on the 3rd. Only small numbers at other locations excepting monthly maxima at Filey of 140 in July and 105 in September [no dates]. The last of the year passed Flamborough on 17th November. Inland, one was picked up exhausted in York, in mid-July, being later released on the coast. One at Broomhill Ings on 12th September.

1995: Unseasonal records were three at Flamborough on 3rd January and one there on 12th with one at Spurn on 17th February. One at Scarborough, in late March, then thinly distributed by late April. First large movement occurred on 10th June when 258 passed Flamborough. In July, peaks at Flamborough were 120 on 9th and 188 on 23rd; at Barmston, 173 on 10th; at Filey, 87 on 11th. The main passage occurred in late August when, on the 26th, 446 passed Flamborough with 90 at Filey; on 28th, 34 at Spurn; 53 at Barmston; 615 at Flamborough; 193 at Filey; 77 at Whitby and 140 at Staithes. The following day, 594 at Flamborough; 91 at Filey and 31 at Long Nab whilst on the 30th, 361 were off Flamborough and 94 at Filey. In September the only count of note was 134 at Flamborough on the 5th though 20 passed Spurn on the 25th. An increase noted at Flamborough in November with ten on the 3rd and up to six on four other days. Late birds were singles at Barmston on the 5th and 12th December and at Flamborough on the 18th.

Mediterranean Shearwater *Puffinus yelkouan*

1994: Quite frequent with, at Flamborough, birds reported between the 7th August and 26th November, mainly one or two individuals but three on 31st August; three on 1st and 18th September and eight on the 3rd. Filey also reported an increase over 1993 with a total of eight birds, all singles excepting two on the 17th September. Single birds were also reported at Spurn on 15th September and at Scarborough on the 1st.

1995: A record year with a total of 91 being reported at Flamborough including one on 12th January then singles on 16th June, 23rd and 26th July. Five flew north at Scarborough on 11th July. In August, 55 passed Flamborough on 18 days with up to four on 14 days, five on 16th and 19th, six on 20th and seven on the 28th. A total of 25 in September with up to three on 12 days and five on the 17th. Elsewhere, singles at Spurn on 11th, 16th, 17th and 20th September;

at Hornsea on 8th, 17th and 30th August; at Barmston on 27th and 30th August with two on 6th September; at Long Nab on 5th August and Filey with singles on five days from 5th August to 17th September with two on both 29th and 30th August. The last at Flamborough were singles on 20th October, 1st, 2nd and 3rd November with three on 21st October.

Single birds at Flamborough considered to be of the race *P.y. yelkouan*, from the central and eastern Mediterranean, were recorded on 16th September (BR) and 2nd November (PAL: MN).

Little Shearwater *Puffinus assimilis*

1994: Singles flew north at Flamborough on 16th (DB: BR: BH: MN: DM) and 18th July (PAL). [Not yet submitted to ***BBRC.***]

1995: One, close inshore, flying north off Flamborough on 4th July (PAL); the 29th record for this location. [Not yet submitted to ***BBRC.***]

British Storm-Petrel *Hydrobates pelagicus*

1994: At Filey tape-luring occurred on 19 evenings between 27th June and 2nd August; a total of 145 birds being caught, two of which, trapped on the 16th and 22nd July, had been ringed at the Algarve [Portugal] on 14th June 1994 whilst one was re-trapped in Norway. At Flamborough, 39 were trapped with ten at Long Nab. In addition to the foreign recoveries, several were controlled either in Yorkshire, Tynemouth or Scotland with birds from those last locations being controlled at Filey. The only bird seen but not trapped flew south at Spurn on 18th October.

1995: Tape-luring at Filey attracted some 65 birds of which 61 were trapped including 19 on 1st August. At Flamborough, *c.*100 were attracted with some 65 being trapped; 15 on 7th July being the most in one evening. Five were caught at Long Nab in July. An individual ringed at Filey in 1993 was controlled at Oygarden [Norway] on 31st July 1995. Notwithstanding the trapped birds, individuals were reported at Spurn with two on 29th October and one on 4th November. Singles at Barmston on 4th August and at Flamborough on 25th June, 6th July, 28th August and 11th November.

Leach's Storm-Petrel *Oceanodroma leucorhoa*

1994: Singles north at Spurn on 14th; at Filey on the 15th September and at Flamborough on 16th October. An unidentified "Storm-Petrel" flew north at Spurn on 15th September.

1995: Singles, at Spurn on 17th, 18th September and 29th October and Flamborough on 12th November. Two unidentified "Storm-Petrels" flew south at Spurn on 1st October with another there on 21st.

Gannet *Morus bassanus*

1994: No details of the breeding colony at Bempton were received. Numbers along the coast were highest, as usual, at Flamborough where peak counts were 3700 on 7th; 3400 on 13th August and 3500 on 18th September. High counts were also noted on these dates at Scarborough whilst the maximum at Filey was 771 on 16th April. Inland, an adult at Eccup Res. on 28th September; a 1st year bird over Potteric Carr on 16th October and single immatures over Thorne Moors on 24th October and Broomhill Ings on 10th December.

1995: Again no details of the breeding colony at Bempton. Highest counts, as usual, from Flamborough with 1000+ on many days between mid-February and mid-October, the maximum being 5000 on 5th August. Elsewhere maxima were 920 at Spurn on 24th September and 513 south in an hour at Filey on 31st January. 130 over the Humber at Sunk Island on 18th September. Inland, singles at Southfield Res. on 25th October and Blacktoft Sands on the 27th.

Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*

1994: Two pairs bred at the LDNNR, the first inland breeding occurrence in Yorkshire. On the coast, 47 pairs bred on the cliffs to the north of Filey Brigg [the first survey since 1986 when 25 pairs were present]-no other breeding records were received. Numbers along the coast were normal with the peak daily count being 87 at Flamborough on 23rd October. Numbers reported inland are increasing; highest counts being 72 at TLNR in October; 25 at Potteric Carr

also in October; 54 at Fairburn Ings in February; 58 at Swillington Ings in December with 46 there in February and 40 in May. 39 were at Bolton-on-Swale in November.

Individuals showing characteristics of the Continental race *P.c. sinensis* were reported from several locations, invariably one or two at each but seven present at Bolton-on-Swale on 3rd March and four at TLNR on the 26th.

1995: Two pairs again bred at the LDNNR. 19 pairs at Boulby Cliff [Staithes] and 44 at Hunt Cliff [Saltburn] whilst no details were reported from the Filey area. Maxima along the coast were 35 at Spurn on 30th September; 68 at Grimston on 14th January; 120 at Flamborough on 28th November. Continues to increase inland with records from many locations; maxima being, 45 at TLNR in September; [no counts from Hornsea Mere]; 41 at Pugneys' CP on 14th January; 39 at Potteric Carr in October/November; 40 to 50 to the east over Norton Lees [Sheffield] on 29th January [the highest count for this area]. At Swillington Ings maxima of 56 in September, 72 in November and 105 in December whilst, in VC65, 41 at Bolton-on-Swale on 2nd January and 51 on 25th November.

Individuals considered to be of the race *P.c. sinensis* were quite widespread in spring, usually one or two, but three at Thornton Steward on 4th March; four at Bolton-on-Swale on 19th March with three at TLNR on 19th March.

Shag *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*

1994: No details of breeding received and considered to be under-reported, particularly north of Filey. Only small numbers reported from that location, in contrast to 1993, with a maximum count of 12 on 15th March. Maxima at Spurn were 31 on 17th February and 11 on 7th, no other day having more than six. North of Filey, 48 flew south at Staithes on 3rd March with 24 south at Long Nab the same day. Largest counts came from Flamborough where the winter roost peaked at 319 on 9th January thereafter decreasing to 170 on 30th then 145 by the 5th February. Numbers fairly stable through to April then a further decrease to 125 on 23rd to 24 by the 30th. Increased in autumn to 57 by 17th September; 85 on 15th October and 107 by the 23rd. Monthly maxima thereafter were 117 on 20th November and 162 on 18th December. Scarce inland with singles, in VC63 at Wintersett Res. on 1st January, 18th/19th February and 1st October; at Thrybergh CP on 19th February and the same day at Ulley CP; at Elland GP from 18th to 21st February. One remained on the R. Don at Meadowhall (Sheffield) from the 5th March into 1995. In VC64, singles were on the R. Aire near Fairburn on 7th March and at Thruscross Res. on 2nd December.

1995: No breeding reports received. The winter roost at Flamborough held only moderate numbers; peaks being 186 on 14th January, 118 on 12 February and 99 on 5th March. Excepting an isolated peak of 65 on 28th May counts from mid-March to late August were below 50. Increased late August to 93 on 28th then generally in excess on 100 with monthly peaks of 100 on 28th September, 242 on 22nd October, 207 on 5th November falling to 151 on 12th then up to 142 present during December. Only small numbers north of Flamborough with 20 at Filey as the highest count reported [1st March]. Considered by the Teesmouth Bird Club to have been the worst year for this species since 1982. Inland, in VC61, one at the LDNNR on 6th March; in VC63, one on the R. Don at Meadowhall all year; singles at Southfield Res. on 2nd and 18th February and 29th September; at Potteric Carr on 24th May; Thornton Moor on 19th June; Leeshaw Res. on 20th June and Howden Res. on 16th October whilst two over Thrybergh CP on 26th August. The only record from VC64 was a single at High Batts NR on 30th April.

Bittern *Botaurus stellaris*

1994: Four remained at Wintersett Res. into this year with three present there until 21st February. The over-wintering bird at Potteric Carr remained until 27th February. One at Wheldrake Ings on 1st/2nd January with one at Fairburn Ings reported frequently between 4th January and 2nd April. One heard booming at Wheldrake Ings between 7th and 12th May with one heard on Thorne Moors on 30th May. In the latter months, one at Potteric Carr on 27th October and at Wintersett Res. on 13th December where two were present on both 16th and 29th December.

1995: In VC61, one flying south over the sea at Flamborough on 2nd October was the first record for that location. One at the LDNNR on 1st January. In spring, at that location, one heard booming [for the third successive year] occasionally in early March [being seen on the 14th], on 23rd April and in May on 3rd/4th and 6th. In VC62, singles were at South Gare on 15th December and Ellerburn Fish Ponds on the 16th. The two birds at Wintersett Res., VC63, originally reported in 1994, were recorded on most days in January with one, at least present until 26th February and one on 9th March. During the latter months, one at that location on 24th and 26th December. One occasionally at Pugneys' CP between 8th January and 4th February with one at Thorpe Marsh on 16th December and at Potteric Carr from the 17th with two from the 19th to 31st. One at Great Langton, VC65, on 29th December.

Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*
1995: A second year individual at Ilkley Golf Course from 25th to 27th October (SH: SM *et al*) [the bird had apparently been present, according to golfers, for several days prior to the 25th].

Squacco Heron *Ardeola ralloides*
1994: One at Thorpe Marsh YWT Reserve from 2nd to 7th June (SC: JWo *et al*). The fourth County record.

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*
1994: One at Filey from 13th to 23rd January (Mrs. Colling *per* PJD); one at Methley on 26th May (WJH) and one at Southfield Res. on 19th October (CF).
1995: Single birds on the south side of the Tees on 5th May; at Blacktoft Sands on 23rd; Wykeham on 23rd and along the R. Ure near Ripon also on the 23rd. On the 30th/31st one was present at Coatham Marsh with one at Nosterfield on 4th June.

Great White Egret *Egretta alba*
1994: One circled Anglers' CP in the early evening of 26th May before flying off to the southwest, being seen later over Edderthorpe and Wath Ings (IB: PM: JMT *et al*).

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*
1994: In VC61, 25 pairs reported at Mattie Brown Wood with eight at Scampston; the heronry in the R. Hull valley was not reported upon. In VC62; seven at Spiker's Hill; 16 at Sleightholmedale with one at Castle Howard [the first breeding occurrence there]. VC63 had ten pairs at Great Gate Wood; 14 at Wentworth Park; four at Agden and one each at Elland Park Wood and Dam Flask whilst in VC64, 27 at Dob Park; 28 at Clifton; nine at North Stainley; four at Bishop Monkton and one at Rougemont. Ten pairs at Kirby Fleetham in VC65. The largest gatherings away from breeding locations were 54 along the LDNNR on 1st July and 28 between Knostrop SF and Swillington Ings. One, found dead, at Ruswarp had been ringed in Estonia in May 1991.
1995: VC61; eight to ten pairs at Scampston; 24 at the LDNNR [Mattie Brown Wood] whilst the R. Hull colony was not commented upon again. No counts received from VC62 though thought to have bred at Castle Howard again. In VC63, 29 pairs at Bretton Park, nine at Wentworth; two at Cannon Hall; four in the Worsbrough valley; 12 at Great Gate Wood and 12 at Bawtry Forest. Not all were counted in VC64 but Askwith/Dob Park considered to have increased. Ten pairs at Kirby Fleetham, VC65. Maxima reported were 46 at Broomhill Ings on 20th August with 35 there on 6th September and at Wheldrake Ings, up to 47 in June and 43 in July. A melanistic bird was present at Gouthwaite Res. on 15th July whilst the "white bird", first noted in 1985, was again present at Potteric Carr.

Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea*
1994: An immature over Wintersett Res. on 10th April was later reported from Higham (SD: GC: GMC). An immature reported at Flamborough on 30th May was still present the following morning (AMA: DB: MN: PAL: BR) with possibly this bird seen at Filey Dams on the

evening of 2nd June (PMS *et al*) and flying south at Spurn on the 5th June. A juvenile at TLNR on the 6th August remained until the 14th (FAW *et al*).
1995: An immature was found dead at Holmpton on 1st May, the decaying body being taken to Spurn where photographed (DM: JC). One at Grimston on 12th May (AF: AI: TI). One at George Hurd's Pond (Scarborough) on 20th/21st June (MFr *et al*).

Black Stork *Ciconia nigra*
1995: One drifted southeast over Strid Woods [Bolton Abbey] on 26th April (S & Mrs. JR). One seen from Wykeham Raptor Viewpoint flying down Troutsdale on 19th June (ABD: CH: GT *et al*). One in the Vale of Pickering near Wykeham on 7th July (RHA) then on 8th July one circling Eston Nab before departing southwest (PJ: SJH: GI).

White Stork *Ciconia ciconia*
1995: Singles at Barmston on 11th April (PP) and Humbleton on the 22nd/23rd (many obs). One seen between Aldbrough and Withernwick on the 7th May (ADM) was observed an hour later flying southeastwards over Spurn.

Spoonbill *Platalea leucorodia*
1994: Two flew southeast over Spurn on 10th May whilst one was reported at Thorne Moors on the 11th. Two adults at Leventhorpe Hall Pond from 12th to 14th June were also recorded at nearby Fairburn Ings during this period. Two different adults at Thorne Moors on 24th were reported at Blacktoft Sands on the 25th and occasionally into July. One of these birds was seen to be wearing a Dutch ring [no further details].
1995: All records concerned single birds; at Blacktoft Sands on 19th April; Robin Hood's Bay on 24th; Blacktoft Sands on 30th; Spurn on 3rd May; Filey on the 4th/5th; Blacktoft Sands on 6th; Filey on 31st; BLPNR and thence south over Spurn on 13th July.

Mute Swan *Cygnus olor*
1994: Few comments from VC61 excepting a total of 24 pairs at the LDNNR from which 14 laid 90 eggs fledging 69 young. Only two pairs reported in VC62-one each at Ruswarp and Sandsend. A decrease in the Sheffield area whilst seven pairs bred in the remainder of VC63. 15 pairs in VC64 where 43 young were fledged from 12-no details of the other three. Four pairs bred successfully in VC65. The largest gatherings reported were 100+ at St. Andrew's Quay [Hull] on 28th November and 90 along the LDNNR in April. [No details were received from the two important moulting locations; Hornsea Mere RSPB Reserve and Fairburn Ings RSPB Reserve].
1995: In VC61, 18 pairs at the LDNNR of which 13 pairs bred laying 67 eggs hatching 51 with 47 young fledged. The only other reported breeding in this VCwas of two pairs at TLNR [not a true reflection?]. Again, in VC62, only three pairs reported which must be under-reported. 30 pairs were located breeding in VC63 but with only a poor success rate whilst in VC64 considered to be still increasing with 19 pairs breeding successfully plus a further two failed pairs [no details from Fairburn Ings].

Single pairs in VC65 at Bolton-on-Swale; Scorton Quarry; Masham and Leeming Bar. The largest flocks recorded were 400 at Hornsea Mere on 19th July with 136 in fields adjacent to TLNR on 19th March; 91 were on the R. Idle [Notts/Yorks boundary] on 4th February.

Bewick's Swan *Cygnus columbianus*
1994: Remains scarcer at the LDNNR than in former years with maxima of 33 in January, 35 in February and 23 in December. Very rare throughout the remainder of VC61. Small numbers in VC63 with Broomhill Ings; Wintersett Res.; Southfield Res. and Thorpe Marsh the favoured locations; 11 at Wintersett Res. the maximum though 43 were seen flying over Carlton Marsh on the 1st March with 148 to the north over Blacktoft Sands on the 21st. A single bird remained at Woodhall Lake throughout the year. As with other areas, was quite scarce in VC64, invariably one to three birds reported but five at Gouthwaite Res. on 6th November. Exceptionally scarce in VC65 with no more than two birds at any location and no wintering

birds. Extreme dates being 1st April [Spurn] and 17th September [LDNNR].
1995: A distinct increase at the LDNNR where up to 53 were present in January then 63 on 1st February, 83 on the 4th and 94 on 5th thereafter fluctuating and decreasing to 17 on 26th. An increase to 41 on 6th March, down to 23 on 14th with the last on 21st. First returning birds were 34 on 15th November with 29 remaining to the 18th thereafter only single figures to the years' end. 17 at Flamborough on 22nd March was a record count for that location. One to seven occasionally reported at eight other locations in VC61. Only one record in VC62, a single at South Gare on 30th October. One to nine at ten locations in VC63 plus 14 over Denaby Ings on 30th December. Year end maxima in the Idle valley [Notts/Yorks boundary] were 80 on 11th and 26th February with 34 on 23rd December. Very scarce in VC64 with only one record, two over Farnham GP on 28th December. Likewise, scarce in VC65 with six at West Tanfield from 26th December to years' end and occasionally singles at Nosterfield; Bolton-on-Swale and Great Langton.

Whooper Swan *Cygnus cygnus*
1994: Numbers at the LDNNR lower this year with maxima of 22 during the early months and 27 in the latter period. Passage noted there with 27 on 21st March and 49 south on 28th October. One to six at several locations in VC61 but 15 at Spurn on 26th October with 18 on 28th. Very few in VC62; 12 south at Scalby on 14th November being maximum. In VCs 63; 64 and 65 quite well distributed with parties of 20+ not uncommon; maxima on passage being 105 north over Elland GP on 21st March [see Bewick's Swan] with 88 at Strines Res. and 74 north over Fulwood [Sheffield] on the same day. Little passage noted during the latter months. One, carrying a neck collar, present at Great Langton from 11th November into 1995 had been ringed in eastern Iceland on 9th August and had also been reported at Lough Foyle [N. Ireland] on 30th October.
1995: Up to 50 at the LDNNR in January increasing to a record 109 on 5th February then less than 50 to mid-March when 70 were present on 14th with 23 on 20th then seven to the 31st [last date]. First returning birds were 11 on 19th October, though not daily until early November, gradually increasing to 21 on 18th but only 12 on 19th; 16 on 14th December and 21 by 26th. Elsewhere, in VC61, one to nine occasionally at nine locations; larger counts being 15 at TLNR on 29th October; 18 at Filey on 22nd March whilst 25 flew northwest up the Humber, at Spurn, on 23rd March. One to six at four locations in VC62 whilst, in VC63, up to nine at ten locations during the early months and 17 in the latter months. Up to 18 were at Broomhill Ings during both winter periods whilst up to 20 were at Edderthorpe from 17th to 31st December. In VC64, no reports from Fairburn Ings. Recorded in small numbers at some 20 locations but 24 at Gouthwaite Res. on 11th March with 43 at Byram Park on 12th February and 29 on 10th December. In this VCreports of feral birds increased at several waters whilst Whooper x Mute Swan hybrids are also being reported from the Leeds/Harrogate area. Maxima at Bolton-on-Swale/Great Langton were 20 during the early months then 26 from 18th November to 16th December with 29 to 31st. The individual with the neck collar at Great Langton in 1994 was again present from 7th November to 31st December. Two birds wearing neck collars at Bolton-on-Swale on 29th October had been reported near Aberdeen on the evening on the 28th and were relocated on the Ouse Washes at Welney on the 31st.

Bean Goose *Anser fabalis*
1994: Scarce, [all records]; the ten at TLNR remained from 1993 until 29th January with seven there on the 30th whilst four flew east there on 7th February. One near Wintersett Res. on 1st January with four near Hempholme on the 2nd. One at Thornton Steward Res. on 4th February whilst three were at the LDNNR on both 20th and 25th March; six at Stapleton in early April. One at Wintersett Res. on 24th September; two at the LDNNR on 24th October; four at Grimston on 6th November; one at the LDNNR on 27th November and six at Bolton-on-Swale on 14th December.
1995: Eight, of the race *A.f. rossicus*, were at Angler's CP from 10th to 12th December. At the LDNNR, one on 28th February; two on 9th and 12th March then 11 on 14th with four on 15th whilst, on 15th December, eight adults were present. All other records were of single

birds; at Wykeham Lakes on 29th February; an immature at Thrybergh CP from 13th to 15th November and one in off the sea at Barmston on 14th December.

Pink-footed Goose *Anser brachyrhynchos*

1994: Few reported from the Humber. Quite widespread on passage particularly between Norfolk and Lancashire with the most being seen in the southwest. Days of large movement being 30th January when 770 passed over Staveley then on the following day; 1000 west over Huddersfield and 1250 over the Barnsley area. 516 flew east at Blacktoft Sands on 12th February with 500 west over Glasshouses on 5th. During the latter months, 820 passed Strines in October with smaller numbers in the east where 280 flew south at Hawsker on 23rd October; 325 at Spurn on the 26th then, on 16th November, 200 passed southwest at Staithes with 235 at Spurn where 382 had been reported the previous day.

1995: Considerable numbers, totalling almost 5000, moved northwest over VC63 on 19th January though some duplication of numbers is inevitable; 1130 being reported in seven skeins over Broomhill Ings. Heavy westerly movement also occurred on 22nd January and 14th February. In the latter months, large skeins were reported moving east, particularly from the Sheffield area, with peaks of 502 in eight skeins over Redmires Res. (in 40 minutes) on 28th October when 705 were seen at Strines (no doubt some duplication). Some 1500 passed through this area between 27th and 30th November with 1100+ on 10th and 11th December. Further north, in VC64, 400 flew south over Swillington Ings on 19th January with 250 northwest over Thruscross on 25th and 250 northwest over Sharow on 15th. In VC61, 400 north at Barmston on 20th February with 240 west over Wheldrake on 27th November. Smaller numbers reported in both winter periods at many locations.

White-fronted Goose *Anser albifrons*

1994: Five remained at the LDNNR from 1993 until 13th March with a sixth bird present on 2nd January. 15 at Skeffling occasionally between 15th January and 17th February with 11 there on 4th and 9th April. An immature at Cromer Point [near Scarborough] from 2nd to 20th January. One at Castle Howard on 19th February. Three at Spurn on 31st January may have wandered from Hornsea Mere where three were present from 22nd January to 12th February. A single wandered VC63 in January being seen on various occasions at Broomhill Ings; Thrybergh CP and Denaby Ings. One at Farnham GP on 12th and 16th February. Six at Bolton-on-Swale/Great Langton from 22nd January to 1st March. One flew north at Spurn on 29th May. During the latter months an adult was at Staveley NR on 18th September and at Addingham on 25th. Seven were reported from Blacktoft Sands on 6th November with seven south at Filey on 2nd December then seven at the LDNNR on the 10th. Ten near Primrose Valley [Filey] between 18th and 20th December and eight at Skeffling on 30th. A skein of 60 south at Grimston on 16th November was unusual.

1995: On 1st January, 14 flew north over TLNR whilst eight were at BLPNR. 14 near Whitby on 22nd January had increased to 15 on 25th and 16 on 28th. Excepting these, few were noted during the early months. An influx occurred in December. On the 1st, 14 south at Filey with 24 south at Barmston; 38 at Spurn on the 5th/6th but 17 on 17th and 32 on 8th; ten at the LDNNR on the 9th increasing to 43 on 14th then fluctuating numbers with 17 on 27th and 16 from the 28th to 31st. Four at TLNR on 19th then 25 on 20th with 19 to 23 to the 30th. Prior to this influx, 18 flew south at Flamborough on 4th November. This influx was not noted in VC62 whilst only one or two were recorded at four locations in VC63 excepting four at Blacktoft Sands on 19th November and 22 east over the R. Idle [Yorks/Notts borders] on 26th December. In VC64, nine over Farnham GP on the 5th December; 13 at Staveley NR on 9th/10th whilst nine were reported from Nosterfield, VC65.

An individual of the Greenland race *A.a. flavirostris* was at Gouthwaite Res. from 21st October to 31st December.

Grey Lag Goose *Anser anser*

1994: Continues to spread and increase; now into the eastern part of the Sheffield area. Bred at ten locations in VC64, mainly in the Harrogate area; widespread in VC61 but, excepting the

south, quite scarce in VC62. Widespread and common in the Bolton-on-Swale/Scorton/Masham areas of VC65. Maxima reported were, 840 at the LDNNR in January; 1263 at TLNR on 6th November; 1569 at Bolton-on-Swale on 31st January with 1574 on 22nd February then 850 on 7th December when 720 were at Nosterfield. 900 were in the Harrogate area during August whilst 554 were at Castle Howard on 5th February. One, carrying a neck collar, seen at Bolton-on-Swale on 19th November had been ringed in Sweden as a nestling on 12th June 1990 and reported wintering in Germany during the previous years.

1995: The increase in numbers and range continues. 48 pairs bred at the LDNNR with small numbers breeding at a further nine locations in VC61 [though considered to be under-reported]. Bred at several locations in VC62; reported breeding at only four in VC63 but 11 in VC64 and five [including 22 pairs at Scorton Quarry] in VC65. Large gatherings were reported from many locations with maxima being; 780 at the LDNNR in November, 300 at Blacktoft Sands on 24th September, 418 at Castle Howard in January, 400 at Staveley NR in September, 691 at Bolton-on-Swale on 7th November, 550 at TLNR on 1st October and 515 at Nosterfield in August.

Snow Goose *Anser caerulescens*

1994: An adult frequented the Harrogate area all year. A "white" bird at Bolton-on-Swale on 15th January; a "white" bird at Swillington Ings on 6th, 8th, 10th and 16th May. A "white" bird at the LDNNR from 20th April to 5th June then two "blue" birds there on 29th/30th June. Single "blue" bird at Harewood Park on 12th June and 10th July whilst four "blue" birds were at Masham GP on 6th September. A single "white" bird was reported frequently from TLNR between 4th September and 29th November occasionally visiting nearby gravel pits. Birds considered to be Snow Goose x Barnacle Goose hybrids occasionally at the LDNNR and Castle Howard.

1995: A single adult was reported from eight locations in the Leeds/Harrogate area during the year. In VC61, one at the LDNNR from 2nd to 4th April with two there on 27th May whilst two were at Hornsea Mere on 7th June. One south, with 70 Grey Lag Geese, at Shiptonthorpe on 29th August whilst singles were at Pulfin Bog on 20th September and Sunk Island on 4th November. Five at Nosterfield, VC65, on 8th January and 30th September.

Canada Goose *Branta canadensis*

1994: Continues to spread, albeit slowly, but a large reduction was reported in the Leeds area whilst few comments were received from the Doncaster area. Large counts reported were 919 at the LDNNR in January; 463 at Eccup Res. on 7th September; up to 424 at the RVCP in October with 400 in September at Farnham GP and 321 in East Park, Hull, in mid June.

1995: 36 pairs bred at the LDNNR [the only "reported" breeding in VC61!]. Bred at five locations in VC62 whilst, in VC63, bred at more than 50 locations with at least 120 pairs being involved. Breeding numbers in VC64 again decreased; no comments from VC65. Gatherings still increasing, excepting in VC64, with maxima of 775 at the LDNNR in February and a record 1127 on 27th November; 560 at Harthill Res. on 16th September; 542 at Eccup Res. on 7th September.

Individuals considered to be of the race *B.c. minima* were at the LDNNR on 14th January and at Swinsty Res. on 8th July.

Barnacle Goose *Branta leucopsis*

1994: One to seven "feral" birds reported from many locations covering all VCs with the possibility of attempted breeding near Wheldrake. One, reported at Potteric Carr on 29th September then at Thorpe Marsh from 30th to 2nd October, had been ringed as a 1st-winter individual on Spitzbergen in the spring. Six at Scalby on 27th October may have been wild birds.

1995: As with the previous year, small numbers in all areas would no doubt refer to "feral" birds. Larger counts, in the winter months, which may be of wild origin, were six at the LDNNR on 9th January plus a further five on the 14th with all 11 remaining until the 21st. 11 there again on 28th February. 14 at Cherry Cobb on 17th December whilst 22 were at Barmston

on 28th September, on which date nine flew south at Filey. Six at Barmston on the 30th.

Brent Goose *Branta bernicla*
1994: Recorded at Spurn during all months excepting July and August; almost daily to mid May with one or two occasionally in June to the 27th. First returning birds there on 1st September; maxima being 413 in January with up to 260 in February and March. Lower numbers during the latter months with 181 on 31st October and 256 on 27th November. Few reported passing along the coast with 97 at Flamborough on 16th October when 33 passed Whitestone Point and 47 off Filey. 74 at Filey on 12th November with 21 at Ness Point that same day. Occasionally reported inland, invariably single birds, at Stapleton; Reeth; Broomhill Ings; Thrybergh CP; Southfield Res.; Faxfleet and Blacktoft Sands whilst two flew south over Wintersett Res. on 3rd December.

Individuals of the pale-breasted race *B.b. hrota* were infrequently reported with seven at Spurn on 1st September; 21 at Flamborough on the same day and, at the latter location, 11 on 2nd and one on the 3rd with five on the 16th and three there on 12th November. The bird at Bolton-on-Swale from 1993 remained until 13th March.
1995: Recorded in every month at Spurn except August with up to 300 during the period January to March then up to 90 in April thereafter falling to 50 by 18th May and ten on 30th. A single bird infrequently to mid June and on 1st July. One on 18th September being the first returning bird thereafter a slow increase to 67 by the end of October then 117 on 5th November with 227 on 15th after which the maximum was 131 on 17th December. Only small numbers along the Humber [away from Spurn] with 15 at Cherry Cobb on 17th December as the most reported. Elsewhere, in VC61, not infrequent along the coast with much movement in late November/early December. On 30th November; 24 south at Scarborough with 92 north and 62 south at Filey. The 1st December saw 172 south and 26 north at Filey; 227 at Flamborough [location record] and 201 south at Barmston. 66 at Flamborough on 2nd when 22 passed Filey. This passage was not noted at Spurn. Inland, one or two occasionally at seven locations with three at Blacktoft Sands on 1st December and five over High Batts NR on 26th January.

Pale-breasted individuals of the race *B.b. hrota* quite frequent at Flamborough with an unseasonal bird on 14th July then seven on 1st October; 15 on 2nd November and one to four on six other days. 17 flew north at Barmston on 20th September. Only one record, at Spurn, a single, on 1st April.

Egyptian Goose *Alopochen aegyptiacus*
1995: One at Pugneys' CP from 17th to 24th April.

Ruddy Shelduck *Tadorna ferruginea*
1994: One to the west at Sunk Island on 22nd January (JW: CJHP).
1995: A female arrived at TLNR on 18th March being reported frequently until 18th July; no doubt being the bird also reported at Pulfin Bog on 18th May. A female made fleeting appearances, on 2nd April, at Farnham GP; Hay-a-Park GP; Givendale and Staveley NR.. One seen flying west at Cherry Cobb on 15th July would be the bird seen at Spurn on that same date whilst two were present at the latter location on the 16th. Singles at Blacktoft Sands on 9th/10th September and TLNR on 29th September; 3rd and 15th October.

Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna*
1994: A record 56 pairs bred at the LDNNR though success not fully known. Nine pairs at Blacktoft Sands with nine in the Doncaster area and one possibly breeding near Sheffield. Bred successfully at some six locations in VC64 with 12 pairs at Studley Park and seven in the Swillington/Knostrop SF area; success only moderate though. Only one pair bred in VC65. Maxima reported from the Humber were 3200 at Sunk Island on 6th August with 640 at Spurn during mid-July and up to 745 in September. 151 were at Blacktoft Sands on 9th March with 150 on 6th May. Coastal passage light at all locations.
1995: Continues to increase at the LDNNR were 61 pairs bred though, again, no further details; maximum count there, excepting breeding pairs, being 104 on 14th March. Only two

pairs bred at TLNR with no other breeding reported from VC61. In VC63, ten pairs at Blacktoft Sands; seven pairs at four locations in the Doncaster area and single pairs at Edderthorpe and Whiteholme Res.. Breeding occurred in VC64 at Swillington Ings [five pairs]; Otley GP [two]; Studley and Skelton Lake [Leeds]-one each whilst in VC65 single pairs reported at Nosterfield; Scorton; Masham and Leyburn. Maxima on the Humber were 1700 at Sunk Island on 12th August with 1000 on 14th September and 672 at Spurn on 20th July. At Blacktoft Sands, on the Ouse, 187 on 8th May with 145 on 14th April; 87 on 29th March and 85 on 29th December. Coastal passage was normal excepting on 2nd December when 180 flew south at Filey with 253 at Flamborough [location record]. Inland, 38 flew west along the Aire at Knottingley on 7th September whilst a total of 47 [adults plus young] were at Nosterfield in June.

Mandarin Duck *Aix galericulata*

1994: The male at Morehall Res. remained from 1993 until 25th January. Male at Potteric Carr on 2nd/3rd January; a female at Roundhay Park [Leeds] on 29th September and 7th October; male at Bolton-on-Swale on 23rd October whilst four males were at Wheldrake Ings on 14th December with one at Thorganby on the 17th.

1995: A pair at Flamborough on 7th April constituted the first occurrence at that location. In VC62, two on the R. Esk at Ruswarp on 22nd April whilst a pair were on Romanby Beck [Northallerton] on 27th December. In VC62, single males at Pugneys' CP on 14th June; at Damflask Res. from 7th to 14th December and at Elland GP from October to the end of the year with a female also there on 30th December. A female was on the Leeds/Liverpool Canal near Bingley on 5th February with one in Myrtle Park [Bingley] on 15th October. In VC65, a single male at Bolton-on-Swale on 31st May.

Wigeon *Anas penelope*

1994: Four pairs bred at the LDNNR producing 20 young whilst a further five pairs possibly did so. Nine females present at Grimwith Res., in June, being accompanied by broods totalling 13. Widespread in both winters with record counts at the LDNNR where maxima were 10,350 in January; 11,650 in February [20th-a Yorkshire record]; 9630 in March then 3250 in April. At the end of the year, 1300 in October; 5600 November and 7300 in December. Elsewhere, 2680 on 18th December at TLNR with 1000 at Blacktoft Sands on 3rd January and 1760 at Bolton-on-Swale on 31st January. Coastal passage light with 259 past Whitestone Point on 18th September; 312 at Spurn on 20th; 557 at Flamborough on 16th October when 253 passed Filey whilst this last location had 343 on 2nd December.

1995: 18 pairs bred at Wheldrake Ings with a further two pairs elsewhere on the LDNNR. A single pair reared six young at Grimwith Res. For the second consecutive year record numbers were reported from the LDNNR with *c.*9230 on 7th January increasing to 14,000 on the 28th then *c.*14,140 [Yorkshire record] on the 18th February thereafter, slowly decreasing to 13,200 on 6th March; 9300 on 14th; 8250 on 25th then 6090 on 1st April to 1000 on the 14th. During the latter months, 1250 by 3rd November increasing to 2500 on 18th; 4300 on 3rd December then 5600 on 15th and 7200 on 27th. Elsewhere, in VC61, 900+ at Spurn on 2nd February was a record count for that location whilst 1342 flew west at Sunk Island on 1st October with 1128 at Flamborough on 12th October [location record]. In VC63, six locations reported one to five hundred with higher totals of 1137 at Broomhill Ings on 22nd January; 1062 in the Idle valley [Notts/Yorks boundary] and 1020 at Blacktoft Sands on 31st December. Continues to increase as a wintering bird in VC64 where peaks were 325 at Eccup Res. on 1st February; 334 at Hay-a-Park GP in December but 825 on 19th and 865 on 26th February at Long Preston. Peaks in VC65, at Bolton-on-Swale, were 1205 on 15th January with 1470 on 19th December whilst up to 688 were at Nosterfield in February.

Falcated Duck *Anas falcata*

1994: A single adult male was present at Blacktoft Sands on the 22nd May (AG *et al*).

Gadwall *Anas strepera*

1994: Breeding occurred, at the LDNNR, with some 50 pairs; at TLNR, three; Denaby Ings,

seven; Broomhill Ings, five; Potteric Carr, four; Blacktoft Sands, three; Old Denaby, one; Thrybergh CP., one; Leventhorpe Hall, one and Swillington Ings, two. Continues to spread and increase with record counts reported from the Harrogate area where 47 were present at Farnham in February. Even larger counts were recorded at Swillington/Leventhorpe where up to 170 were present in September and 117 in October. In VC61, no counts were received from Hornsea Mere [the County stronghold] but 139 were at TLNR in November with 102 during December whilst 94 at Wheldrake Ings on 17th April was a record for that location. 93 in October at Potteric Carr was the maximum count for VC63 whilst few were reported from either VC62 or VC65.

1995: An increase in breeding numbers at the LDNNR where an estimated 61 pairs had 23 broods; elsewhere, in VC61, four pairs at TLNR and two at Hotham Hall. In VC63, 24 pairs reported breeding from nine locations rearing at least 90 young whilst, in VC64, only reported breeding at Swillington Ings where three pairs raised 26 young. Not recorded breeding in either VC62 or VC65. Still continues to increase and spread; maxima reported in VC61 were, 160 at TLNR on 11th October and 105 at the LDNNR on 25th March [no counts from Hornsea Mere]. 190 at Potteric Carr, VC63, in October; 171 in the Idle valley [Notts/Yorks boundary] on 18th March with 109 at Wintersett Res. [Barnsley area record] on 19th November. In VC64, maxima were 170 at Swillington Ings on 19th August and 99 at Farnham GP on 27th December. Remains quite scarce in VC65 where seven at Nosterfield in December was the highest count.

Teal *Anas crecca*

1994: An Estimated 40 pairs bred at the LDNNR with seven at Broomhill Ings; two at Blackburn Meadows and one each at Thorpe Marsh; Redmires Res. and Gouthwaite Res. Breeding possibly occurred at Potteric Carr; Denaby and Withens Clough. Exceedingly large numbers were present at the LDNNR during the early months with maxima of 3250 in January; *c.*8231 in February [Yorkshire record] then 3100 in March and 1790 in mid April. 1340 present in November with 2150 in December. Elsewhere the maxima were 800 at TLNR in February; 732 at Blacktoft Sands on 12th November; 657 at Broomhill Ings in September; 613 at Swillington Ings in November and 520 at Potteric Carr in January. Coastal passage was light with maxima at Spurn of 189 on 19th September and 161 at Flamborough on 3rd December.

1995: It was estimated that between 65 and 80 pairs bred at the LDNNR with the only other confirmed breeding occurring at Broomhill Ings [four pairs]; Potteric Carr [three] and Gouthwaite Res. [one]. Once more, very high numbers reported from the LDNNR with maxima during the early months of *c.*6575 on 28th January; 5600 on 26th February; 7050 on 14th March then 6350 on 25th decreasing to 4390 on 1st April and 500 on the 15th. In the latter months, up to 300 present in September then 730 during October with 1610 in November and 3700 in December. The only other location to report more than 1000 birds was Gouthwaite Res. with 1022 on 13th December following 737 in September; 750 in October and 717 in November. Maxima elsewhere were 420 in late December at Swillington Ings; 406 at Eccup Res. on 4th December; 490 at Pugneys' CP. on 4th January; 450 at Potteric Carr in January with 526 in December; 481 at Thrybergh CP. on 18th December when 590 were at Blacktoft Sands. 750 at TLNR on 17th September. Maxima southwards along the coast were 515 at Spurn on 5th January; 555 on 1st October with 514 on the 12th on which day 329 passed Flamborough. On 2nd December, 201 south at Filey; 263 at Flamborough and 237 at Spurn.

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*

1994: Widespread but continues to decline as a wintering bird in VC64. Estimated 500 breeding pairs at the LDNNR where maxima were 2750 in February and 3100 in December. 2060 was the peak count at TLNR with 1275 at Leighton Res., being the only other counts over 1000. [No counts received from either Hornsea Mere or Fairburn Ings].

1995: The decline in VC64 as a wintering bird continues with maxima at the favoured waters being 435 at Gouthwaite Res. in December and 420 at Harewood Park on 10th December. Breeding numbers at the LDNNR remained stable as did peak counts with *c.*2640 in January; 3150 in February and 4100 in December. Leighton Res., with 1200 on 19th November, was the only other location to report more than 1000 whilst 500-1000 were occasionally recorded at

Bolton-on-Swale; Broomhill Ings and Potteric Carr. [Again no records received from either Fairburn Ings or Hornsea Mere].

Pintail *Anas acuta*

1994: Four pairs bred at the LDNNR rearing a total of 23 young; a fifth pair may have bred. Up to 70 were present there in January with 213 in February and 84 in March whilst, in December, up to 74 were recorded. Blacktoft Sands had maxima of 45 on 21st September and 50 on 16th October. Inland, the only record of note was 27 that flew northwest at Thrybergh CP. on 2nd October whilst along the coast, 19 south at Spurn on 19th September and 18 on 16th October with 16 at Flamborough on 3rd December. 16 at Sunk Island on 2nd October.

1995: Bred successfully at the LDNNR with at least nine broods reported. At that location, maxima were, 79 on 29th January; 109 on 18th February; 163 on 14th March and 189 on the 25th. A measure of the success of the breeding birds was reflected by high numbers of first-year individuals amongst the July and August totals; 87 and 79 respectively. 79 were present there in December. Up to ten at many locations but, in VC63, 16 at Southfield Res. on 13th February; 14 at Broomhill Ings on 17th September; 25 west at Blacktoft Sands on 8th September; 27 north at the RVCP on the 11th and, at Thrybergh CP. 55 then 26 northwest on 1st October. In VC64; 16 at Swinsty Res. on 17th February with 34 west over Stockbridge NR on 1st October and 28 west over Swillington Ings on 16th September. On the Humber; 75 west at Sunk Island on 3rd April with 54 west on 16th September and 87 west on 1st October. 37 at Haverfield Ponds on 14th October whilst 25 were at Cherry Cobb on the 15th. Coastal passage was normal excepting 136 north at Barmston on 11th September whilst the maxima elsewhere were 34 at Spurn on 1st October and 31 at Flamborough on 12th October.

Garganey *Anas querquedula*

1994: Two pairs bred at Broomhill Ings raising 13 young whilst at the LDNNR, two pairs definitely bred, rearing broods of nine and ten, and four other pairs were thought to have bred whilst a fifth may have done so. An immature male over-wintered in the Worsbrough and Wintersett areas being reported frequently between 18th January and 18th February. The earliest considered migrants were a pair on 5th March at Nosterfield then a female on the 18th at Broomhill Ings. Away from the breeding locations, quite well distributed during the spring, invariably involving one or two birds. Slightly more in autumn with six at Edderthorpe on 27th July, up to seven at Swillington Ings during August with up to 12 regularly during July at the LDNNR whilst one to three individuals were reported from some 12 locations.

1995: No details from the LDNNR. One pair bred at Edderthorpe but no young reared; at least one pair was present at Broomhill Ings but did not breed [possibly due to work on new mere]. Reported from some 21 locations, usually one or two birds passing through but six at Broomhill Ings on 16th August; four at Edderthorpe on 23rd August. The first of the year was at Broomhill Ings on 25th March with the last at Barmston and Potteric Carr on 1st November.

Blue-winged Teal *Anas discors*

1995: An adult female at TLNR on 29th November (FXM: TR: PWI *et al*) was also recorded on the 2nd and 3rd December.

Shoveler *Anas clypeata*

1994: Well distributed. At least 117 pairs bred at the LDNNR with seven at Blacktoft Sands; five at both Broomhill Ings and Denaby Ings; three at Edderthorpe with two each at TLNR and Potteric Carr and one at Pulfin Bog. Success at all locations was apparently good. Largest gatherings outwith the breeding season were 101 at Broomhill Ings on 2nd October; 121 at the LDNNR in February with 120 at TLNR in November.

1995: No comments received from the LDNNR consequently the only recorded breeding occurrence in VC61 was of one pair at TLNR. No breeding reported from VC62 whilst in VC63 an estimated 20 pairs bred at six locations rearing 88 young including seven broods totalling 33 at Broomhill Ings. No breeding reported from VC64 though in VC65, two pairs bred near Catterick. Maxima reported were at Swillington Ings; VC64; with 358 on 15th

January and 385 on 13th December; 116 at Blacktoft Sands on 4th October then 110 at TLNR during September and October whilst 73 were reported at Wintersett Res. on 10th December. Coastal passage only light.

Red-crested Pochard *Netta rufina*

1994: Quite widespread though the origin of all birds must be dubious. Three males plus a female at Hornsea Mere from 1st January to 20th February; a male at Blacktoft Sands on 6th March; a male at the RVCP on 19th March with another male there on 10th April, both reappearing on 13th August remaining until the end of the year. Male at Hay-a-Park GP on 7th May with an eclipse male at Pulfin Bog on 27th June. Four males, in eclipse, at Nosterfield from 29th July to 23rd August. Females were recorded at Swillington Ings on 14th August; at the LDNNR on 10th November; at Potteric Carr on the 14th and Catcliffe Flash on the 15th.

A hybrid Red-crested Pochard x Pochard was at Swillington Ings on 18th and 25th June.

1995: The two males at the RVCP remained throughout the year whilst a single female was at Rivelin Filters from 14th to 16th October.

Pochard *Aythya ferina*

1994: 15 Pairs bred at the LDNNR though only three broods were seen; six pairs produced young at TLNR whilst a further two pairs may have bred. 11 pairs at Blacktoft Sands reared only seven young; one pair at Old Denaby with five young. Reported to have bred at Fairburn Ings but no further details forthcoming. The largest counts reported were at the LDNNR with 2785 on 15th January; 2400 on 1st February and 1800 on 1st March. Elsewhere; 350 at TLNR in February; 550 at Swillington Ings on 22nd February; 242 at Bolton-on-Swale on 1st January with 239 at Southfield Res. in January and 199 at Thrybergh CP in February. Coastal passage generally light with a peak of 78 at Flamborough on 3rd December.

1995: A very poor breeding season with nine pairs at the LDNNR but only one young bird seen; Blacktoft Sands had nine pairs but only four to six young whilst at Swillington Ings one pair reared three young. Extremely large numbers at the LDNNR with 1400 on 28th January increasing to 2785 on 5th February; 3963 on 9th then a record for Yorkshire of 5184 on the 18th whilst 4900 were still present on the 26th and 4700 on 6th March; thereafter, a rapid decrease to 1150 on 14th. No other location had more than the 440 at Swillington Ings in early January; 350 at Malham Tarn on 24th February and 313 at Bolton-on-Swale on 24th January. Coastal passage light but 173 south at Barmston on 7th October.

Ring-necked Duck *Aythya collaris*

1994: A single male at Wharfe Ings on 7th March (AWW: RSS: CR) being also reported at Ledston on 12th March then Fairburn Ings on 13th (JM) and many days thereafter. A male at Swillington Park on 19th April (DAH *et al*) then at Swillington Ings on 20th April and again from the 6th to 12th June (PRM *et al*) Single male at Anglers' CP on 30th August (JMT).

1995: The male at Swillington Ings returned on 5th March being reported also on the 14th/15th; 19th and 21st; from 3rd to 7th April and finally on the 9th (JNS *et al*). Single males at TLNR from 16th to 25th May (TK: PA *et al*); at Knotford Nook on 20th May (AGG: SNH) and at Hornsea Mere from 2nd to 4th June (BR *et al*). A female and an immature were at Fly Flatts Res. from 21st October to 6th November (PC *et al*).

Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula*

1994: Excepting the LDNNR where some 90 pairs bred, scarce as a breeder in VC61 with three pairs at TLNR and one at Pulfin Bog. No breeding reported from VC62 whilst, in VC63, some 39 pairs bred with a decrease noted in the Sheffield area. 37+ pairs bred at 17 locations in VC64 with breeding confirmed at six locations in VC65. Maxima reported were 900 at TLNR in October; 850+ at Swillington Ings in December with 800 there in February; 535 at Wintersett Res. on 18th September; 450 at LDNNR in January; 242 at Malham Tarn on 23rd September with 228 at the RVCP in December and 135 at Bolton-on-Swale on 11th September.

1995: A record 103 pairs at the LDNNR with four at TLNR and four at North Cave being the only breeding records from VC61. Confirmed breeding occurred at six locations in VC62

whilst in VC63, breeding occurred at 25 locations, at 14 of which 42 pairs hatched 269 young. 23 pairs bred successfully in VC64 and was confirmed at seven locations in VC65. Maxima recorded were 800 at Swillington Ings in January and TLNR in August with 693 at Pugneys' CP on 29th December increasing to 772 on 31st. 468 were present at Wintersett Res. on 10th September with 471 at the LDNNR on 18th March.

Scaup *Aythya marila*

1994: With the exception of 50 at Spurn, on 5th February, was quite scarce along the coast with records continuing to decrease at most localities. Many reports of one to four from inland locations with higher counts from the LDNNR where six were present on 23rd January; eight on the 24th with four remaining until 19th February then, on the 20th, 11 males were present some remaining to the 28th. Six on 12th/13th March. At Southfield Res., five present on 28th September then six on 29th/30th with eight on the 8th October.

1995: Occasionally, in small numbers, along the coast during the early months. Quite frequent during the latter months with 38 at Barmston on 22nd November then, in December, 45 at Barmston on 17th when 20 passed Filey; 69 at Flamborough on 28th with 29 on 29th then 20 on the 30th when 88 passed Filey and 14 at Barmston. 37 at Flamborough on 31st. Up to 33 were present on the Humber, at Spurn, from the 8th to 10th. As with the previous year, one to four at many inland locations.

Eider *Somateria mollissima*

1994: Only small numbers at Whitby with a maximum of 18 on 16th November. Up to 58 at Filey excepting 142 on 2nd December [includes 127 to south], similar numbers at Flamborough though 169 on 3rd whilst, at Spurn, the maximum was 50 in February. 63 were reported from Sunk Island on 3rd December. Inland, a male was at Swillington Ings on 13th November with a female at Broomhill Ings on the 25th.

1995: Small numbers along the coast during the early months; more widespread during the latter, particularly in November. The first largish movement occurred on 30th October with 96 north at Barmston and 35 at Flamborough. On 11th November; 100 at Barmston with 169 at Flamborough and 88 past Filey then, on the 12th, 150 at Spurn; 332 at Barmston; 494 at Flamborough; 269 at Filey; 285 [in one hour] past Scarborough and 14 at Long Nab. 270 at Barmston on the 13th when 375 were reported at Flamborough. 129 passed Filey on the 27th November then, in December, 172 at Flamborough on the 1st; 139 on 2nd with 127 on the 4th and 114 on 16th whist 101 passed Barmston on the 5th. Occasionally reported along the Humber with 97 at Cherry Cobb on 12th November and ten there on 17th December whilst one was at Blacktoft Sands [Trent/Ouse confluence] on 21st October. Inland, the remarkable number of 100+ flew northwest over Farnham GP and Hay-a-Park GP on 28th November. Singles were reported from Swillington Ings on 18th November and 2nd December with four there on the 1st. Also in December, two at West Tanfield from 3rd to 10th with singles at Anglers' CP from 2nd to 4th; Swinsty Res. on 3rd and Nosterfield on the 7th.

Long- tailed Duck *Clangula hyemalis*

1994: A paucity of records though occurred at Filey on 15 days between mid-November and mid-December. Four flew south at Filey on 1st December with five at Flamborough on 13th October and three on 19th November and 27th December. Four were at Sunk Island on 20th November. Inland, singles were reported at TLNR from 1993 until 6th January; Hornsea Mere from 2nd to 22nd January; a male at Underbank Res. on 7th/8th May and a male at Swillington Ings on the 14th.

1995: Generally small numbers along the coast, usually one to four, but six at Flamborough on 1st November then six at Barmston on 2nd when five were at Filey, 12 at Scarborough and 25 at Flamborough. Six at Flamborough on 13th with five on the 14th. Four were on the Humber, at Sunk Island, on 21st October. Inland, singles at Edderthorpe from the 23rd to 25th March; Eccup Res. on 26th March; Wintersett Res. from 5th to 20th April and on Hatfield Moors [Ten Acre Pond] from 9th to 16th July.

Common Scoter *Melanitta nigra*

1994: Well distributed along the coast but few counts of note. 17th July brought 205 to Filey; 272 to Flamborough and 230 to Spurn. Other counts of similar magnitude were 280 at Flamborough on 25th June; 200 there on 5th November with 207 on 25th whilst Spurn had 326 on 3rd November and Filey 372 on 12th December. Small numbers on the lower Humber with a maximum of 52 at Sunk Island on 19th November. One to ten reported from many inland locations with 11 at Malham Tarn on 19th November; 22 circled Redmires Res. on 11th August whilst 28 were present there on 6th November.

1995: Up to 190 along the coast during the early months then slightly fewer to late autumn excepting 311 at Flamborough on 2nd July with 350 on the 9th whilst 233 passed Barmston on 23rd June. Heavy passage occurred in early November with, on the 2nd, 900 at Spurn; 150 at Hornsea; 950 at Barmston; 980 at Flamborough; 409 at Filey; 868 at Scarborough and 120 at Long Nab. The following day, 385 at Spurn; 314 at Flamborough and 251 at Scarborough then, on the 4th, 377 at Flamborough. Elsewhere, 100 on the Humber, at Spurn, on 8th December and 63 at Sunk Island on 29th July. Few inland records, mainly of one to four birds though six flew over Colsterdale on 10th December with 11 at Ingbirchworth Res. on 16th June.

Surf Scoter *Melanitta perspicillata*

1994: Male at Filey on 13th May (JD: NR *et al*).

1995: An adult male seen at Hornsea on 1st November (PK: DM) was probably the bird which flew north at Flamborough on 2nd November (AMA: PAL: MN) then, on the 4th, a second year male was also reported at Flamborough (AMA: DB: BH: PAL: BR: PJW).

Addition to the 1992 Report: The bird which passed Flamborough on 16th October was also reported passing Whitestone Point later that same day (RSS).

Velvet Scoter *Melanitta fusca*

1994: One to five fairly regularly along the coast. Larger numbers were reported from Spurn with seven on 18th October; Flamborough with six on 27th March; eight on 17th September, eight on 29th October then seven on 25th December. One flew north at Whitestone Point on 16th October whilst, at Filey, seven were present on 18th December with nine on the 25th and nine again on the 27th. Inland, a male was at Wheldrake Ings on 15th March being the first for the LDNNR; two immature males at Wintersett/Anglers' CP on 3rd December remained until the end of the year.

1995: Up to four occasionally at most coastal locations but 12 in the Redcar/Saltburn area in January with nine south at Staithes on 12th February; nine also at Barmston on 30th October. In November, ten on the 1st at Flamborough with nine on both the 5th and 9th then eight on the 12th; five at Ness Point on 1st with five at Filey on the 12th. One, on the Humber, at Sunk Island on 18th November. Inland, the immature male at Anglers' CP remained from 1994 until 26th January. An immature male at Southfield Res. on 3rd December with an adult male at Dewsbury SF also on the 3rd.

Goldeneye *Bucephala clangula*

1994: Well distributed with many waters reporting parties of ten or more. Locations recording more than 50 were TLNR with a maximum of 142 in March; Swillington Ings with 60 in January; Fairburn Ings with 140 in mid-March; Broomhill Ings, 51 on 27th February and Wintersett Res. with 80 on 19th January. Two individuals again summered at TLNR. Coastal passage was uneventful though 90 north at Whitestone Point on 16th October was a good count. Elsewhere, 43 at Flamborough on 13th November when 34 flew south at Filey and 32 at Long Nab on 5th November, were the highest counts.

1995: Up to 50 reported during both winter periods at many locations. Waters holding larger numbers were Hornsea Mere with 140 on 19th March; up to 177 at TLNR in February, 167 there in March and 115 in December; 54 at the LDNNR in February; 87 at Wintersett Res. on 22nd January with 86 there on 19th February. Up to 100 at Swillington Ings in December. Along the coast, 121 at Barmston on 1st November when 67 were at Flamborough whilst on

the 2nd; 109 at Scarborough and 171 at Barmston. An immature male was at Wintersett Res. on 25th June when two were at Southfield Res.

Smew *Mergellus albellus*

1994: A rather quiet year-in VC61: three at TLNR [one male] on 27th February; a male at Broomfleet Ponds on 23rd February; two *redheads* at Hornsea Mere on 19th February. In VC63; single *redheads* at Wintersett Res. on 9th January and Pugneys' CP from 19th January to 21st April whilst in VC64, the *redhead* at Swillington Ings remained from 1993 through to 22nd March with a second bird present on 22nd January and 22nd February. Fewer during the latter months with a *redhead* at Pulfin Bog on 5th November; one at Blackmoorfoot Res. on 14th/15th November while two flew north at Whitestone Point on 16th October.

1995: In VC61; four at Sunk Island on 12th November with two occasionally at TLNR in December; two at North Cave GP from 28th October to 4th November whilst two flew north at Barmston on 30th October. Single birds were occasionally reported from a further seven locations. The only record from VC62 was of a *redhead* at Scaling Dam on 4th/5th December. Singles at four locations in VC63 with two at Blackmoorfoot Res. on 5th November and two at Ringstone Edge Res. also on 5th November [possibly same birds]. Singles at four locations in VC64 and at two in VC65.

Red-breasted Merganser *Mergus serrator*

1994: Bred again at Redmires Res. where a female was seen with five young on 3rd July though, for the ninth successive year, none fledged. One to four occasionally along the coast with 17 north at Filey on 4th October; 14 north at Whitestone Point on 16th October on which date ten passed Filey. Along the Humber, at Sunk Island, 11 were present on 20th September with 29 there on 22nd October. Small numbers at many inland locations, maxima being five *redheads* at Wintersett Res. on 3rd November with four at the LDNNR on 8th April.

1995: A pair was present at Redmires Res. but no indication of breeding [for the first time since breeding was established in 1986]. Small numbers occasionally along the coast, generally one to ten though larger counts were reported from Flamborough with 19 on 2nd November and 15 on both 1st and 2nd December. 13 passed north at Scarborough on 2nd November. Monthly maxima at South Gare were 24 in January; 41, February; 37, October and 26 in November. Inland, one to four occasionally at some 25 locations with nine staying briefly at Catcliffe Flash on 29th October.

Goosander *Mergus merganser*

1994: Widespread reports of breeding on many rivers in the Pennine areas of VCs 64 and 65 [notwithstanding an organised cull, under licence, at the Devonshire Estate near Bolton Abbey]. Bred in VC62 near Helmsley. Many locations reported up to 50 birds at times during the year with larger counts at Leighton Res. where 238 were present on 1st January with 212 on 26th December; 140 at Eccup Res. on 1st January and 213 on 17th December. Up to 125 at Hay-a-Park GP in January; 200+ at the LDNNR in February and 100 at Castle Howard, also in February. 62 at Elland GP on 2nd March with 61 on 31st December whilst Southfield Res. held up to 70 in February and 56 in December. An influx at High Batts NR gave 180 in April. Small numbers along the coast with 11 at Flamborough on 19th February; 12 there on 23rd October and 15 on 14th November. 12 north at Whitestone Point on 12th November.

1995: Would appear to be expanding its breeding range in VC65 though fewer records received from VC64 and no comments received from VC62. Not yet reported breeding in VC63 [breeds in north Derbyshire]. Scarce in VC61 excepting at the LDNNR where the maxima were 127 in February and 71 in December. Castle Howard, in VC62, held up to 168 in January with 174 in February and 142 in December. In VC63, quite widespread in winter with 20 to 40 at many locations whilst up to 72 were at Thornton Moor Res. in January with 73 in December; 75 at Elland GP on 8th January. Hay-a-Park GP, VC64, had maxima of 103 in January; 100 in February; 140 in November and 150 in December. 181 at Eccup Res. on 14th January then monthly maxima of 101 to 113 during February to April and November/December. 107 at Swillington Ings on 28th December whilst 95 were at Lindley

Wood Res. on 14th December. Leighton Res., VC65, had 150 on 8th January but few [max. 32] during the latter months. Few along the coast with 11 at Flamborough on 5th February as maximum.

Ruddy Duck *Oxyura jamaicensis*
1994: Continues to increase with Swillington Ings remaining the stronghold; maxima there being 216 in February; 185 in October and 265 on 25th December [a Yorkshire record]. As a breeding species continues to spread slowly with confirmed breeding at Staveley NR being the first for the Harrogate area. Bred at 12 locations in VC63 but not particularly widespread in VC61 where only reported breeding at the LDNNR. Breeding was not confirmed in VC62.
1995: Would still appear to be increasing and extending its range though a scarce breeder in VC61 and not, as yet, confirmed in VC65. Swillington Ings again held the largest numbers with peaks of 232 on 15th January; 100 in February; 198 in October and 231 in November. Maxima elsewhere were 70 at Worsbrough Res. on 4th February with 76 there on 24th December and 64 at TLNR on 25th December.

Honey Buzzard *Pernis apivorus*
1994: A pair successfully reared two young to the flying stage whilst at a second location birds were seen displaying [as in 1993] but breeding was not confirmed. On passage, birds were reported Blacktoft Sands on 6th May; Flamborough on 8th; Potteric Carr on 22nd and Spurn on 23rd. In June, singles were recorded at South Cliffe on 5th and Spurn on the 26th. One at Fairburn Ings on 21st August with two west at Sunk Island on 24th. Finally one at Broomhill Ings on 11th September.
1995: A pair reared two young with two, probably three, other individuals visiting the area. In spring, migrants [all singles], were reported from Spurn on 7th May; at Filey on the 14th; both Spurn and Flamborough on the 26th; the LDNNR on the 29th and Staveley NR on the 30th. In autumn, singles at Potteric Carr on 29th August then, in September, at Wilsic on 1st/2nd; at Spurn on the 11th; Southfield Res. on the 11th/12th; at Thorne Moors on the 14th and Filey on the 17th.

Black Kite *Milvus migrans*
1994: One north over Eastfield, Scarborough on 28th April (PJD).
1995: One came in from the east at Spurn on 7th May continuing northwest, up the Humber, being reported also from Kilnsea and Easington (DRM: LM: MPL: PMu). One came over Wykeham Forest on 28th May (DBy) and was most likely the bird seen at Filey on the 29th (LG: JS).
Addition to the 1989 Report: One at Hornsea Mere on 12th May (Mrs. JD: TDC).
Addition to the 1991 Report: One at Hornsea Mere on 11th May (TDC: TI: AS).

Red Kite *Milvus milvus*
1994: Single birds in the Ewden valley from 2nd to 4th March; south at Spurn on 2nd April; west at Rishworth on 1st June probably being the bird seen the following day at Digley [noted to have been wing-tagged]; Coverdale on 8th July; Spurn on 26th and 27th October. [These first two definitely not wing-tagged].
1995: Single birds were reported from the Upleatham area on 7th February and 8th March; Flamborough on 16th/17th February; Winscar on 24th April; Pike Low on 26th April then, in autumn, from Blacktoft Sands on 16th August; Marske on 15th October [being mobbed by three Buzzards]; at Filey on the 18th October being seen later that day at Flamborough; at Sigglesthorne [wing-tagged] on the 19th whilst one remained in the Gouthwaite Res. area from 15th October to 15th November. In the Wheldrake area single birds were reported on 26th October and 26th November with two being present from 8th December into 1996.

Marsh Harrier *Circus aeruginosus*
1994: Two pairs reared six young at Blacktoft Sands where birds were present from 28th March into the following year. It is considered that some 25 individuals visited the Reserve

with nine on 26th April as the maximum. A single pair bred in VC61 rearing three young [same location as in 1993]. Continues to increase throughout the county with many locations reporting their best ever year. Spurn had a total of 62 birds during the year with 14 on 4th May following five on 27th April and four on the 30th. Five were at the LDNNR on 3rd May with five also there on the 21st. Up to four frequently reported from Thorne Moors between May and December [probably Blacktoft birds]. Filey reported "an excellent spring" whilst, in contrast, nearby Flamborough recorded a "below average" year.

1995: Two birds over-wintered from 1994 at Blacktoft Sands where the "first" arrival was an adult male on 26th March. Seven "pairs" [six males and seven females] hatched 17 young of which 11 were still present and flying on 31st July. Two or three individuals remaining into 1996. Elsewhere, a pair bred in VC61 whilst near the LDNNR, a pair reared one young. A first year male was seen carrying sticks at Pulfin Bog. Birds were reported from an increased number of locations and in increased numbers-usually one or two birds but five at Spurn on 5th May then, on the 7th, four at Spurn and seven at Flamborough with five at Spurn the following day. Five were at Filey on the 14th with four at the LDNNR on the 29th. Smaller numbers during the autumn with five at Spurn the only large count.

Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus*

1994: Birds were present at the same site which produced young in 1993 and a nest located, however, between 8th and 12th May, the contents disappeared. At another location a nest was built but failed owing to its proximity to a public footpath. Birds were also recorded at a further two locations during the breeding season but no attempts were made to breed. Roosts were reported from Blacktoft Sands where up to five were present during the early months then two from late October with five in December. Two near Ewden until late March with up to four during the latter months. Up to four were seen in the Leighton Res./Colsterdale area during the latter months. Also during these latter months, up to four were in the Barden area and five in the Timble/Beamsley area, Remains scarce in the east of the county.

1995: Birds were present at one site during the summer but no evidence of breeding was forthcoming. At least four individuals were present in the Leighton Res./Colsterdale area during the early months with up to five in Wharfedale during both winter periods. The winter roost at Blacktoft Sands reached six during February and five by late December. Up to three were on Broomhead Moor in both winter periods. A wing-tagged female was present in the Blacktoft area until 16th May whilst one carrying white wing-tags was at Roundhill Res. on 10th December. Many locations reported single birds occasionally though four were reported at Spurn on 18th October.

Montagu's Harrier *Circus pygargus*

1994: In VC61, singles at Flamborough on 29th April; 2nd May; at Spurn on 5th and 19th May; Kilnsea on 18th and 24th May; Sunk Island on several dates between 6th May and 20th June; at Filey on 24th May whilst, in VC62, singles were at Long Nab on 25th May and Goathland on 6th August. In VC63, birds were reported from Blacktoft Sands on 6th May and 25th June and at Anglers' CP on 13th and finally, in VC64, at Bramham on 6th September.

1995: Two were at Filey on 29th May otherwise all records concerned single birds; in VC61, at Sunk Island on 19th May; Spurn on the 20th then Welwick on both 13th and 14th July; TLNR on 21st September and finally, Barmston on the 26th. Singles at Scalby, VC62, on 8th July and Cromer Point on 26th; in VC63, at Blacktoft Sands on 28th and 30th April; at Maltby on 14th May; Blacktoft Sands on 21st May with a male at Thorne early on the 20th and, what was most likely the same bird, at Denby Dale later that same day. One at Southfield Res. on the 26th.

Goshawk *Accipiter gentilis*

1994: Details of breeding status very sketchy but assumed, against evidence to the contrary, to be increasing. Birds continue to be persecuted in the southwest of the county. Present at all the usual sites in VC64 though one definitely failed with evidence suggesting the tree had recently been climbed. A definite increase in the LDNNR where two juveniles were reported

from one nest and three from another. Few records away from the breeding areas; singles being reported from Flamborough on 9th September and 28th October whilst, at Blacktoft Sands, singles were present on 6th and 26th November.

1995: Few details of breeding status received though success in the southwest was low, however still considered to be extending its range slowly with successful breeding again occurring in the York area. Occasionally recorded from areas of VC63 where known not to breed and from the eastern part of VC61, at Sunk Island, on 11th November; Barmston on 5th September and 22nd October and from Flamborough on 14th and 27th April [different birds].

Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus*

1994: Continues to increase in most areas though still a little scarce in some eastern areas. Regarded by many observers as the most common raptor in parts of VC64. Slight decrease in the Barnsley area being down to 80 pairs from 90 in 1993 [*cf.* two in 1974]. Best autumn passage on record at Spurn where maxima were nine on both 23rd and 24th October; ten on the 26th with 16 on 27th and 14 on the 28th. Three were observed coming in over the sea at Scarborough on 19th October. Seven roosting in a conifer plantation at Langsett on 24th December.

1995: Would appear to be little change in status, however, the on-going study in the Barnsley area reported 55 to 60 breeding pairs [down from 80 last year] with 40 to 50 pairs in the Doncaster area though there is some over-lap with Barnsley. Approximately 17 pairs bred on, or adjacent to, the LDNNR. Little coastal passage with peaks of ten at Flamborough on 7th May and 9th September; Spurn also reported ten on the 7th May.

Buzzard *Buteo buteo*

1994: Breeding occurred at four locations with a further three pairs occupying suitable habitat, two of which attempted to breed whilst there were occasional sightings of a pair on the western fringes of the North York Moors. Up to five birds were seen regularly in the Colsterdale/Gouthwaite/Leighton Res. areas during the first winter period with up to seven during the latter period. One, carrying a white wing-tag, [from SW Scotland] was at Leighton Res. on 20th November. A record autumn along the coast with up to seven at Flamborough in late October; up to four, in the same period, at Filey and up to seven at Spurn. Three were seen to come in off the sea in the Whitby area on 23rd October. Many locations occasionally reported single birds in autumn though two at Wheatley on 22nd September with three at the LDNNR on 30th October.

1995: Continues to increase both in range and breeding numbers. Confirmed or probable breeding occurred at eight locations in VC65 though considered as under-reported in the Dales. Five pairs bred in VC64 [though there may be some over-lap with VC65] whilst a further two pairs summered. Breeding strongly suspected in the southeast of VC63 whilst in VC61, a pair bred near the LDNNR, however, the two young were later shot. A second pair may have bred near the LDNNR. Widespread during the early months, particularly in the east where many of the 1994 birds wintered with up to five near Hackness, into March; three near Guisborough and as many as five occasionally at Flamborough. Even larger counts at this last location as birds returned with an estimated 42 being reported [based on plumage/feather details]; 11 were present on 1st April with nine on the 2nd; seven on the 3rd and eight on the 4th. One or two at many coastal locations to late April though regrettably one which wintered at Filey was found shot near the Dams NR on 27th April. On the higher ground of the west several locations reported up to eight during the winter periods. Scarce during the latter months away from the high ground though four were recorded at TLNR on the 3rd September.

Rough-legged Buzzard *Buteo lagopus*

1994: During the early months only two records, both of single birds, at Leighton Res. on 27th February and at Ramsgill on 2nd April. The influx into eastern England, during the autumn, was reflected in Yorkshire with two at Filey on 23rd October when one was at Flamborough then singles at the latter location on the 24th; 26th and 28th. One at Spurn on the 16th November. Away from the coast, a minimum of three individuals were in the Thorne

Moors area between 17th and 25th October with another on 18th November. One in Commondale from the 24th November was joined by a second bird on the 27th with both remaining into 1995. Singles at Blacktoft Sands on 21st and 29th December; at Golcar on 21st October; Ulley CP on 19th October; Ewden on 13th November and the Little Don Valley on 21st November. In VC64, one at March Ghyll Res. on 23rd October with two on the 24th, one later moving to the Timble area being there from 26th to 9th December. One at Staveley NR on 4th November. Juveniles were also seen at Beamsley Moor; Langton Moor; Barden Fell and Storiths though some duplication of records may have occurred. In VC65, one in Colsterdale on 22nd December.

[Several birds in the east of the county were reported only as *buzzard sp* owing to the distant views and that many of the Buzzards recorded were pale northern birds].

1995: A few remained from the 1994 influx with singles to 19th March in both the Wharfedale area and the Gouthwaite Res./Colsterdale area. Another was reported occasionally on the southwestern moorlands from 25th March to 1st May. One in the Sleddale/Commondale area to 5th February with a second bird present on 29th January. Singles were reported over Staveley NR on 12th January; Flamborough on 28th January; Timble on 4th/5th February; Staithes on 1st April and Boulby on the 25th.

Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*

1994: The first of the year was at Gouthwaite Res. on 26th March. During the spring period single birds were reported from some 29 locations involving as many as 50 individuals [though duplication may be likely]. Fewer in autumn with singles at 16 locations with some 29 individuals reported. Two recorded at the LDNNR on 26th May with two south over the sea at Flamborough on 10th September being the only records of more than one bird. The last of the year being one on the extremely late date of 12th December at Londesborough; this obviously being the bird seen at Wheldrake the following day.

1995: One at Langsett on 27th March, the first of the year, with single birds being quite widespread in April and May; very occasionally in June and July. The only report of two birds was from the LDNNR on 20th April. One report in August, a single bird at the LDNNR on 15th with the main autumnal passage occurring in September with stragglers into October; this autumnal passage again being lighter than spring. All were singles excepting two, possibly three, in the Swinsty/Fewston/Lindley Wood area of the Washburn valley between the 16th and 18th September. The last of the year was at Filey on 15th October.

Lesser Kestrel *Falco naumanni*

Following a review, by the ***BBRC***, of all records of this species, the bird at Atwick on 14th June 1983 is now considered as being "inadequately documented" and has now been rejected by that committee].

Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*

1994: Widespread with no apparent change in status. Maxima along the coast, during the spring passage, were 12 at Flamborough on 2nd May with 13 at Spurn on the 4th whilst, in autumn, 22 were recorded at Spurn on 28th October and 1st November with 15 at Flamborough on 26th October. 16 were at the LDNNR on 27th November with 19 there on 17th December.

1995: No apparent change in status though reported to have had a poor breeding season on the high ground of VC64. Light spring passage along the coast with a maximum of 14, at Flamborough, on 7th May. In autumn, good passage in October, with, at Flamborough, 27 on 8th; 26 on 18th and 21 on the 26th whilst Spurn reported 20 on 5th; 20 on 9th; 24 on 10th; 85 on 18th; 24 on 19th and 36 on the 27th. A total of 47 were counted at the LDNNR on 15th September.

Red-footed Falcon *Falco vespertinus*

1994: A first summer female reported at the Seamer Road Mere, Scarborough, on 6th May (RHA) whilst single females were recorded at Spurn on the 12th/13th May (FB: JC *et al*) and at Royd Moor Res. on 28th May (JED: NEP: MW *et al*). Single females at Flamborough on

4th and 26th May (PAL) have been accepted by the ***YNU*** but not, as yet, submitted to the ***BBRC.***

Merlin *Falco columbarius*

1994: Breeding occurred at many locations in VC64 with, where successful, good brood sizes. No comments from VC65 and a disappointing breeding season in the Sheffield area [several pairs being robbed in Derbyshire and possibly Yorkshire]. Birds present at three locations on the North York Moors but breeding not confirmed. Quite widespread in winter; usually single birds but occasionally two together at several locations whilst three were reported at Spurn on 28th August and 25th October.

1995: Breeding status apparently unchanged in VC64 with early nesters doing better than the later ones. About ten pairs bred in VC63 of which at least three were robbed of their eggs. No comments received from VC65 whilst not confirmed as breeding in VC62 but five birds at one location, on the North York Moors, in July, was thought to have been a family party. Widespread on the lower ground outside the breeding season, usually singles, occasionally two together but three at Spurn on 15th August and 1st October; at Flamborough on 7th October; Sunk Island on 11th November with three, possibly four, at the LDNNR in October and five at Spurn on 21st September.

Hobby *Falco subbuteo*

1994: A pair bred in the Doncaster area rearing three young [Doncaster and District Orn. Report]. A pair were also present, for a short time, at the 1993 location but were "deterred" by a breeding pair of Sparrowhawks. Up to four present on Thorne Moors between 30th April and 8th October whilst in the Sheffield area 13 records in July may suggest a breeding presence. Several sightings at a location in VC62 may also indicate breeding. Widespread records from the south and east of the county, usually single birds, but two at Wheldrake on 8th September whilst two were at Gouthwaite Res. on 16th September.

1995: Bred in the Doncaster area again but at a different location from 1994. Indications are that a pair probably bred on, or near, the LDNNR. Continues to increase in numbers, particularly in the southeastern part of VC63, though most records are of single birds two, together, were occasionally reported from a few locations with three [one a juvenile] in the Denton area of Wharfedale. Extreme dates were 20th April, at Hay-a-Park GP and Staveley NR, and 11th October at the LDNNR.

Peregrine *Falco peregrinus*

1994: Breeding status unclear: VC65 "generally reported as a reasonable breeding season"; VC64 "no obvious change but only scattered details known"; VC63 "five pairs confirmed in the Halifax area"; "two pairs in the Huddersfield area". Several locations occupied in the Sheffield area though exactly how many in Yorkshire or Derbyshire not clear. VC62: two pairs holding territory but no further details. Continued increase in records away from the breeding areas [*i.e.* 36 sightings in the Doncaster area and "regular" at the LDNNR]. Two were seen to come in off the sea at Flamborough on 19th October where three were reported on 22nd October with four present there on the 30th.

1995: As with 1994 exact status a little unclear though definitely increasing overall. In VC65, again generally a good breeding season with almost no information received from VC64 whilst, in VC63, nine pairs known to have attempted breeding but probably only four of these reared young. Birds present again at two locations in VC62 but again no further details whilst a pair summered in VC61. As with Merlin, widespread in the lower areas of the county during the non-breeding season.

Red Grouse *Lagopus lagopus*

1994: Generally a good breeding season but numbers still considered as being low. Little evidence of disease at Barden which had caused losses in recent years.

1995: A poor breeding season reported from VCs 64 and 65 owing to cold weather and a late spring. However, good numbers were reported on the moors west of Halifax with 300+

near Walshaw on 18th February whilst a keeper claimed over 900 brace shot between August and December.

Black Grouse *Tetrao tetrix*
1994: Has almost vanished from VC64; the only records being a female plus three young at a site in Ribblesdale though 12 [four males] were seen there on 9th October. In VC65; no reports from Feldom but up to five seen nearby may have originated from there; eight were present in Arkengarthdale and three [two males] in Coverdale.
1995: A male at Newby Moor, on 26th October, was the only record from VC64. In VC65, birds still present on Feldom Ranges but no details received; at least eight birds present at one site in Arkengarthdale whilst two males and a female were at one site in Coverdale.

Red-legged Partridge *Alectoris rufa*
1994: Still widespread in the lower areas of the county with 60 at Goody Cross on 18th August indicating a recent release. Many locations reported up to 20 birds but as many as 37 were present near Southfield Res. during October with up to 50 near Wilsic during the same month.
1995: Continues to extend into the north and west of VC65 with increased sightings from the moorland fringes. Little change in VC64 whilst in VC63, although generally widespread in the lowlands, it is considered to be decreasing. Apparently unchanged in VCs 61 and 62. Largest counts were 40 at Thrybergh CP on 17th September with 34 at Broomhill Ings on 21st October.

Grey Partridge *Perdix perdix*
1994: More widespread in VC64 than Red-legged Partridge [being found in the Dales]; similarly in the Doncaster area. At least 50 pairs bred at the LDNNR with 18 at Wilsic but the only breeding reported from VC62 was near Long Nab [not a true reflection?]. Many counts of 25+ with maxima of 60 at Wilsic in October and 55 there in December with 45 near Southfield Res. High numbers near Grimwith Res. could indicate releases.
1995: Status apparently unchanged with possibly some increase in parts of VC64 but now rare in the Filey area of VC61. Largest gatherings reported were 57 near Firsby on 17th October; 56 at Broomhill Ings on 12th November whilst 50 at Grimwith Res. on 2nd October was a remarkable number for an upland site [due to releases as suggested in 1994?].

Quail *Coturnix coturnix*
1994: Quite well distributed with many locations reporting calling birds though usually singles, and generally, for one day only. Large influx into the Doncaster area involving at least 16 birds with most near Wilsic where between six and eight were present in "set-aside" between 23rd May and 26th June. Five males heard at Wheldrake on 25th June and although not confirmed as breeding it is thought likely there were one-or two pairs. Six calling birds in the Broadstones area [Huddersfield] on 4th June. The first of the year was at Thornton Ellers on 30th April with the last, at Grimston, on 25th September.
1995: A large influx into the county produced widespread records. A total of 53 to 55 singing males were located at the LDNNR; exactly how many bred is open to conjecture but at least three broods were seen. An extensive survey by the Doncaster and District Orn. Soc. [ten mile radius from Doncaster Town Hall] revealed about 58 singing males, though almost half were in the Idle valley which is predominately in Notts. One to four calling birds were reported from at least a further 30 locations biased towards the south of the county. Earliest arrivals noted were at Southfield Res. on 4th May then on 9th at Spurn and the 10th at the LDNNR whilst the last were seen on 13th August at the LDNNR and Loversall Carr excepting an exceedingly late bird at Filey on 7th October.

Pheasant *Phasianus colchicus*
1994: No change in status or distribution; large numbers being released by shooting syndicates.
1995: No change in status; up to 20,000 released on some estates in VC61.

Golden Pheasant *Chrysolophus pictus*
1995: One, a male, at Bishopthorpe on 25th April.

Water Rail *Rallus aquaticus*
1994: Fewer than usual at Spurn whilst the number of migrants at Flamborough continued to decline. Reported from many locations but breeding difficult to prove. Ten pairs at Blacktoft Sands with up to 20 at the LDNNR; two probably at Broomhill Ings and one definitely at Staveley NR. Maxima reported being 30 at Blacktoft Sands on 5th November whilst up to 21 were calling along the Lower Derwent in spring.
1995: Breeding confirmed at Blacktoft Sands [17 pairs estimated to have been present] and the LDNNR [27 calling males during the breeding season] whilst birds were present during the summer in suitable habitat at three locations in the Barnsley area and one in the Doncaster area. One to four occasionally at some 40 locations mainly during the winter months with a maximum count reported of 47+ along the LDNNR but scarce along the coast particularly at Flamborough where still declining.

Spotted Crake *Porzana porzana*
1994: Singles reported at Flamborough on 19th April (PAL); at TLNR, a juvenile, on 11th August (TR); at Blacktoft Sands on 14th September (per AG) and Staveley NR on the 18th (PTT).
1995: One at the LDNNR on 10th/11th April; two there on 31st May increasing to four by 10th June and five on the 12th with birds calling until at least 9th July. An immature on the 20th then, over the next few days, an adult and four immatures were located by tape-luring. Elsewhere, in VC61, an excellent year at TLNR with at least four [perhaps five] reported; a juvenile on 15th August; adult on 16th; another adult on the 20th remaining to 2nd September occasionally with a juvenile; another juvenile from 9th to 11th September and an adult from the 17th to 20th. One at Flamborough on 16th April. In VC62, the only record was of one at Coatham Marsh on 6th October whilst in VC63, an adult frequented Potteric Carr from 3rd August to 10th October with one at Blacktoft Sands on the 8th September. In VC64, one calling at Staveley NR on 15th August; one at Hay-a-Park GP from 19th to 27th August with other singles at Swillington Park from 28th August to 2nd September and again on the 7th and near Harewood from 29th September to 10th October.

Corncrake *Crex crex*
1994: Up to three birds calling near Hotham (VC61) where breeding was subsequently proven (GD: PMI). Three calling at Wheldrake Ings on 8th and 9th June with birds seen in the same vicinity on 13th July. One at Filey on 14th September (PJD) was the first record for that location.
1995: Single calling males at Wheldrake Ings on 14th and 23rd June and at East Cottingwith on 18th and 20th June. A female was seen at Seavy Carr on 24th July. One calling near Coxwold (VC62) on 25th June whilst, at Barmston, one was seen to come in off the sea on 4th September.

Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*
1994: Continues to increase and spread in the Sheffield area whilst, as a result of increased rainfall during latter months, returned to former numbers at Flamborough. Elsewhere, no changes in status reported. Estimated 160 pairs at the LDNNR. Maxima recorded were 220 at the LDNNR in October; 80 at Broomhill Ings in August and 49 at Esholt SW on 11th January.
1995: If anything, a slight increase in numbers-some 260 pairs estimated to have bred at the LDNNR with at least 50 pairs breeding in both the Barnsley and Sheffield areas. Maxima reported being 120 at Broomhill Ings on 9th September; 289 at the LDNNR in March with 441 there in November and 367 in December.

Coot *Fulica atra*
1994: Estimated 330 pairs at the LDNNR. No figures available for either Hornsea Mere or

Fairburn Ings thus maxima reported were 723 at Hay-a-Park GP in January; 1157 at Wintersett Res. on 13th November with 1002 there on 3rd December; 655 at TLNR in October and 458 at the RVCP in December.

1995: Numbers at the LDNNR increased from 37 on 14th January to 344 on 12th February; 641 on 6th March then a record 811 on 1st April. Less than 100 present there during the latter months. 333 at Scaling Dam in November was the highest count for VC62 whilst in VC63, Wintersett Res. held 764 on 22nd January with 771 on 8th October; 463 at the RVCP in November and 536 at Pugneys' CP on 29th December. Malham Tarn held the largest numbers in VC64 with 300 in January; 480 on 10th September; 740 in late October/early November and 750 on 17th December. 200 to 400 were occasionally reported from Farnham GP; Hay-a-Park GP; Chelker Res.; Harewood and Swillington Ings. Bolton-on-Swale, in VC65, had 519 on 15th January; 371 on 10th September with 445 on 10th December.

Crane *Grus grus*

1994: An adult, seen occasioanlly, on the Yorks/Notts borders [R. Idle] in the early part of the year was probably the bird reported at Doncaster on 5th December 1993. An adult on Thorne Moors on 25th October and 6th November had been reported at Southfield Res. on 24th October.

1995: One seen flying east over Skeffling on 12th March. One over Cayton Carrs on 9th April (JHa) would no doubt be the bird seen at Flamborough on the 11th (JMP) and flying north at Filey on the 14th (PMS: DJSc). A "crane-like bird" seen on the 11th April near Hornsea, independently, by Mrs. E Church; Mrs. M. Curtis and Miss E. Curtis was, on verbal descriptions, very likely this same wandering individual. One flew east over Bingley on 10th October (AR).

Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus*

1994: Ten pairs bred at the LDNNR; two pairs at Wykeham Lakes; four at Blacktoft Sands whilst 43 pairs were located in a moorland survey of the Dales National Park, 22 of which were at Grimwith Res. The maxima at Spurn, on the Humber, were 2500 in March; 2500, September; 4000, November and 5000, December. Coastal passage saw up to 370 during late July/early August plus 360 on 25th August; 204 were off Staithes on 15th with 670 south at Grimston on 5th August. Inland, 124 were counted at Nosterfield on 5th March.

1955: The only breeding reported from VC61 was of 20 pairs on, or near, the LDNNR; one pair in VC62, at Wykeham Lakes whilst in VC63; four pairs bred at Blacktoft Sands and one near Blaxton. Breeding numbers in VC64 probably increased; no comment from VC65. Maxima at Spurn were 2500 during January/February; 2000 in March then below 1000 until August when up to 2500 were present with 6000 in September; 4000, October then 1000-2000 in November/ December. Elsewhere along the coast, 782 near Saltburn on 22nd January and 450 in Cornelian Bay on 7th January. 659 flew south at Grimston on 8th August with 626 at Flamborough on the 20th otherwise coastal passage was normal with up to 375 at Filey during August and 300 at Spurn. At this last location 270 came in from the east on 8th August. Along the estuary, only light passage was noted at Blacktoft Sands but inland, numbers, in spring, continued the recent trend of increase with 193 at Nosterfield on 3rd March and 288 at Thornton Steward Res. on the 5th [highest ever inland count for Yorkshire]. Small numbers in VC64 with a maximum of 69 on the R. Skirfare.

Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta*

1994: Two pairs bred at Blacktoft Sands rearing three young; up to six birds being present during early April. Three flew south at Spurn on 12th April whilst four were at Sunk Island on 20th August. Single birds were reported from Spurn on 12th April; BLPNR on the 30th; TLNR on 5th May; Hornsea Mere on 17th; Sunk Island on 27th/28th May and Wilsic on 2nd September.

1995: Five pairs bred at Blacktoft Sands rearing 14 young; the first of the year being reported there on 10th March with the last, three, on 23rd September. Single birds were at Stone Creek on 12th February; Sunk Island from 25th February to 5th March; at both Spurn and

BLPNR on 14th April; Sunk Island on 22nd and at Horton Bank Res. from 26th to 30th. One flew south along the river at the LDNNR on 2nd August.

Stone Curlew *Burhinus oedicnemus*
1994: One near Hutton Cranswick on 26th April (P & LM).
1995: One seen flying east at Kilnsea on 7th May.

Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius*
1994: The first of the year were two flying east at Went Ings on 11th March thence Edderthorpe on the 17th and Broomhill Ings on 18th. The last of the year being reported from Southfield Res., Nosterfield; TLNR and Denaby Ings on 18th September then both Wintersett Res. and Sunk Island on 3rd October. Breeding was reported in VC61 from TLNR with three pairs; LDNNR, two; in VC62, at Wykeham Lakes with three pairs: VC63, 20+ pairs in the Doncaster area with three in the Sheffield area; two at Wintersett Res.; one, possibly two, at North Anston and one each at Warland and Whiteholme. In VC64, bred or attempted to breed, at ten locations though only successful at one whilst in VC65, five pairs bred along the R. Swale between Ellerton and Little Langton; three at Pallet Hill and one each at Scorton Quarry and Stapleton. The maximum count reported from any location being 21 at Broomhill Ings on 26th April.
1995: One at the LDNNR on 3rd March was the first followed by singles at Wykeham Lakes on 9th then Broomhill Ings and Hay-a-Park GP both on the 11th; the last being at TLNR on 20th September and four at Broomhill Ings on 27th. 35 at Edderthorpe on 6th July was a record count for both the Barnsley area and Yorkshire. Breeding was reported as follows: VC61: LDNNR, two pairs [with one further probably breeding]; TLNR, one pair and Pulfin Bog, one pair. VC62: Wykeham Lakes, four pairs. VC63: Halifax area, six pairs [four successful]; Barnsley, eight [four or five successful]; Doncaster, 16 [good success]; Rotherham, three [mixed success] with a further four pairs breeding elsewhere. VC64: confirmed breeding occurred at six locations; possibly at a further five with birds present at another four. VC65; four between Ellerton and Little Langton on the R. Swale; two at Pallet Hill and one each at Scorton Quarry and Stapleton.

Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula*
1994: The only reported breeding in VC61 being at Spurn whilst not reported as doing so in VC62; six pairs in the Doncaster of VC63 whilst in VC64, nine pairs at Grimwith Res. and two each at Kex Gill Quarry and Leventhorpe Ash Ponds. Three pairs at Pallet Hill, in VC65, and two at Nosterfield. Peak counts along the coast and estuary were 238 at Spurn on the 4th September otherwise mainly less than 100; 270 at Sunk Island on 6th May with 70 at Blacktoft Sands on 27th May. Coastal passage only light. Inland; maxima were 34 at Edderthorpe on 15th May with 22 at Nosterfield on 28th April; 21 at Broomhill Ings on 15th May and 18 on Thorne Moors on the same day.
1995: Breeding occurred in VC61, at Spurn [no further details] and in VC62 at Marske and Bran Sands [again no further details]. In VC63, three pairs reported in the Doncaster area; all being successful while in VC64, breeding was attempted at seven locations but successful at only one. In VC65, single pairs bred at Pallet Hill and Scorton Quarry. Peak counts on the coast were 168 at Spurn in October with 120 at Barmston on 2nd December whilst along the estuary passage was considered to have been low with a maximum of 131 at Sunk Island on 13th May. At Blacktoft Sands, passage peaked with 89 on 28th May and 103 on 12th June and, in autumn, with 64 on 12th October. Small numbers were reported inland with 20 at Nosterfield in early May and 28 at Grimwith Res. on 1st June.

Kentish Plover *Charadrius alexandrinus*
1994: A female was present at BLPNR between 9th and 13th April. This bird had been colour-ringed as a juvenile at St. Peter-Bohl [Schleswig-Holstein] on 23rd May 1993.
1995: A male at BLPNR on 7th May.

Dotterel *Charadrius morinellus*

1994: Four on Burbage Moor on 26th April increasing to 15 by the 30th then four again on 3rd May with eight on the 4th and 8th. Two on Totley Moor on 29th/30th April with four at South Anston on the 30th. All other spring records were in May with three on Shunner Howe Fell on 1st; one at Round Hill on 3rd; 12 at Burton Agnes on 4th then four on Shunner Howe Fell on the 8th after which a blank period until the 16th when 12 were at Danby Beacon with three at Flamborough from 18th to 21st; eight on Bellerby Ranges on the 23rd; two near Reeth on the 26th with one at Flamborough on 26th/27th and finally two at Healaugh on the 27th. The only record in autumn was of a single bird at Spurn on 16th September.

1995: Burbage Moor again hosted birds with six on 6th May then eight on the 8th; 11 on 10th, seven on the 12th with the last being on the 14th. The first were 12 at Whitely Common on 21st April with 27 at Edlington the following day then six on Thorne Moors on the 24th. The next was a single bird at Flamborough on 2nd May then, on the 8th, four at Ravenscar and five at Brookhouse where four were still present on the 9th. Five at Aldbrough from 12th to 14th whilst two were near Blackmoorfoot Res. on the 13th with three there from the 14th to 16th. One at Round Hill on the 15th. Up to nine frequented Rombalds Moor from the 19th to 26th whilst two were on Beamsley Moor on the 23rd and three at Danby Beacon on the 28th. In autumn, all records concerned single birds; at South Anston from 31st August to 9th September and again on the 13th; at Barmston on 5th September; Burbage Moor on the 16th then a late bird at Filey on 15th/16th October and what was considered to be the same bird [?] reappearing there on 1st and 4th November.

American Golden Plover *Pluvialis dominica*

1994: A first-summer/second-winter individual was at South Anston from 31st August to 6th September (JMC: MT *et al*).

1995: A juvenile at Buckton between 22nd October and 7th November occasionally visited Flamborough, being reported at the latter, on 29th and 31st October (AMA: TDC: PAL *et al*).

Golden Plover *Pluvialis apricaria*

1994: 111 pairs were located by the moorland breeding bird survey of the Dales NP [23 of which were in the Fountains/Darnbrook Fells area]. Widespread during the winter months with some large gatherings; at Sunk Island 12,000 were present on 26th September with 10,000 on 1st October and 6000 on 24th August; 5000+ during November/December at Grimston/Owstwick with 3850 at the LDNNR during March. 2500 to 2800 at South Anston during December with 2200 in January/February; 2000 in the Atwick/Hornsea area during both February and December with 2500 at Great Hatfield in October; 2000 at Almholme in late December; 2000 at Hutton Conyers in January whilst the maxima at Blacktoft Sands were 2000 in September; 3500 in October then 2500 in November and 2200 in December. Flocks of 200 to 1500 were reported from many locations.

1995: Breeding status would appear to be unchanged but, for the first time in many years, was confirmed on the North York Moors. As usual, widespread during the winter months though flocks not quite as large as the previous year. Along the Humber maxima were 5750 at Stone Creek on 17th December with 3000 at Sunk Island on 23rd September and 4400 on 8th October. The LDNNR held 6800 on 14th January with other peaks of 5750 on 6th March; 4300 on 14th and 6300 on the 25th. Maximum there during the latter months was 3500+ on 16th September. In VC63; 3000 at Broomhill Ings on 17th February with 3000 at Cridling Stubbs on 16th December and 5000 there the following day. 1500 or more occasionally reported from Great Hatfield; Barmston; Atwick; South Anston; Almholme; Blacktoft Sands; Nosterfield; Harrogate [Bogs Lane] and Haverah Park.

Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*

1994: 1720 at Sunk Island on 30th April was exceptional. Elsewhere, 195 at Spurn on 28th August with up to 136 in September and 101 in October. Little coastal passage though 50 flew north at Hornsea on 14th September. Many records inland, usually of single birds but two at Nosterfield on 3rd May; three at Broomhill Ings on 3rd December and four at Wintersett Res.

on 3rd May; four at Blacktoft Sands on 29th September with six there on 12th November.
1995: A return to more normal numbers with the maxima at Sunk Island being 412 on 1st April; 403 on 13th May; 250 on 19th August and 180 on 30th September whilst, at Spurn, maxima there were 81 on 19th March; 140 on 24th August and 193 during September. The highest count at Blacktoft Sands was 17 on 28th September. Singles occasionally inland at some 25 locations but four at Swillington Ings on 17th September with ten there on 2nd October whilst unprecedented numbers were reported from the LDNNR in January with seven on the 7th; 11 on the 14th then nine on the 15th; ten on 16th and 19th falling to three on the 22nd. 12 flew south at TLNR on 31st December with a further four that day to the east.

Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus*
1994: 250 pairs estimated to have bred at the LDNNR; 792 pairs located by the moorland breeding bird survey of the Dales NP with up to 45 per sq. km. at the Malham and Wharfedale flashes. 28 displaying adults at Brampton Common; 33 pairs at Broomhill Ings; 11 pairs at Thrybergh CP whilst some 450 pairs were estimated to have bred in the Doncaster area [includes Thrybergh]. Breeding was reported from 11 locations in the Sheffield area and from seven in the Halifax area. Many locations recorded large gatherings in both winter periods; maxima being 10,000 at Grimston/Owstwick during most of November/December; 8000 at Blacktoft Sands on 26th November; 8000 at Faxfleet on 4th December; 7400 at the LDNNR in December; 4200 at that same location in February with 4600 at Sunk Island on 26th November and 3500 at Blacktoft Sands during both January and December. 2645 flew south at Flamborough on 27th February being a record count for that location and the only record of note concerning coastal passage.
1995: A further increase in the breeding numbers at the LDNNR with an estimated 290 pairs present. The breeding season in VC64 was considered normal on the low ground but poor on the higher ground; generally good in the Doncaster area [VC63] with no comments received from other areas. As usual large flocks reported from many locations though generally smaller than 1994. Maxima reported were 11,300 at the LDNNR on 6th March with *c.*9800 on the 26th February and *c.*7110 on the 12th; counts there during the latter months were lower with maximum of 4700 in December. 3000 at Broomhill Ings on 19th February; 3240 on the Humber between Stone Creek and Paull on 17th December; 2600 at TLNR on 25th February and 18th October whilst a similar number were reported from Nosterfield during October. 2000 occasionally at Ingbirchworth; Blacktoft Sands and Roos Carrs. Little passage of note with 1036 south at Thorne Ashfields on 4th December by far the highest count reported.

Knot *Calidris canutus*
1994: Maxima at Spurn; 3500 in February; 4000 on 12th November and 9th December whilst elsewhere along the coast, some 3443 were at Staithes on 14th February. Along the Humber, at Sunk Island, maxima there were 2200 on 1st January with 1580 on 30th April and 2500 on 2nd May. Little coastal passage with 85 south at Long Nab in 75 minutes on 1st August when 172 were reported at Flamborough; 70 passed south at Spurn on 28th August whilst 91 flew south at Filey on 31st July. Small numbers inland with usually one or two individuals but ten at Wintersett Res. on 2nd May and five at Duffield Carrs on 20th February.
1995: Monthly maxima at Spurn were 5200, January; 1000, February; 5000, March then below 350 until September excepting 1215 on 31st July. 3000 in September; 7000, October then 10,000 in November/December. Few counts received from the Humber with maxima there, at Sunk Island, of 2820 on 21st January; 2000 on 4th March and 2760 on 10th December. Coastal passage light. Inland, one to three at 12 locations with four at the LDNNR on 7th December; five at Blacktoft Sands on 12th November and six to the west at Southfield Res. on 7th January.

Sanderling *Calidris alba*
1994: No records received from one of the main areas, Bridlington Bay. At Spurn, maxima were; 220 on 28th March; 148 on 24th July increasing to 550 by 21st August with up to 400 in September. 112 present at Sunk Island on 6th May and 63 on 24th August. Light coastal pas-

sage with 108 at Spurn on 24th July; 173 at Flamborough on the 30th whilst Filey had 278 south that same day with 256 on the 29th and 87 on 24th. Inland, notable passage reported from VC63 with nine at Broomhill Ings and 17 at Wintersett Res. Elsewhere, five at Swillington, VC64, on 21st May and, in VC65, one or two occasionally at Nosterfield; Pallet Hill and Scorton Quarry.

1995: Very good numbers at Spurn with up to 100 during January to April then, in late May/Early June, mainly between 120 and 220 but 400 to 450 between the 25th and 29th. Small numbers to late July when 117 reported on the 30th thereafter increasing to an all-time high of 800 on 24th August. 346 at Sunk Island on 29th May and 219 on 22nd September whilst 180 were at BLPNR on 18th January with 55 there on 12th November. Maximum at Bran Sands was 249 on 21st July. Light coastal passage in July but slightly higher counts in October when Spurn recorded 145 on 22nd and 200 on the 25th. Few inland records, invariably one to three individuals at each location but four at Whitehouse Res. on 20th May; six at Swillington Ings on 8th September; ten at the LDNNR on 28th February/1st March with five there on 11th March.

Little Stint *Calidris minuta*

1994: Generally a poor year. Singles were reported during spring from Nosterfield; Denaby Ings; Pulfin Bog and Saltend with two at Thorne Moors on 14th/15th May; up to three at Blacktoft Sands in May/June; three at Nosterfield on 13th June and five at Wykeham Lakes on 5th June. Thinly distributed in autumn with up to four at several locations and a maximum of ten at Blacktoft Sands on 8th September.

1995: The only spring record was of three at Wykeham Lakes on 16th June. Slight improvement on 1994 with birds reported daily at Blacktoft Sands from 25th July to 29th November; double figure counts reported on 14 occasions with maxima of 39 on 13th September and 28 on the 28th. A small coastal influx brought 15 to Flamborough on 9th September, eight to Spurn on the 11th whilst ten were at Sunk Island on 15th. Only small numbers reported inland with seven at Pulfin Bog on 13th September otherwise only Swillington Ings reported any passage with 12 on 9th September then nine on the 10th; 12 on 11th with eight or nine to the 15th. A very late bird was at North Cave GP on 5th December.

Temminck's Stint *Calidris temminckii*

1994: Two at Edderthorpe Flash from 20th to 23rd May with one remaining to the 31st. All other records were of single birds, in May; at TLNR on 8th/9th; Filey 11th/12th; Sunk Island and Blacktoft Sands on 13th; Spurn, 15th; Kilnsea and Scorton Quarry on 16th; Filey from 23rd to 25th and Kilnsea, 24th. One at Filey on 14th July.

1995: One at Blacktoft Sands on 2nd and 15th May with two on the 16th. Two at Wintersett Res. on 20th May were seen to leave to the west. Singles at Spurn on 20th May and High Batts NR on 12th/13th June. In autumn singles were recorded at Spurn on 2nd/3rd September; Sunk Island on 3rd September; LDNNR on 5th/6th and 9th then finally at BLPNR on 16th.

White-rumped Sandpiper *Calidris fuscicollis*

1995: A single adult at BLPNR from 12th to 16th August (JC: KDi: FXM *et al*).

Baird's Sandpiper *Calidris bairdii*

1995: An adult at Filey on 8th May (DBy *et al*) was the first spring record for Yorkshire. A juvenile at Broomhill Ings on 5th and 6th September (JH *et al*). The fourth and fifth records for Yorkshire.

Pectoral Sandpiper *Calidris melanotos*

1994: An adult at TLNR from 26th July to 1st August (TR *et al*) with one at a slurry pit near Cowden from 1st to 5th September (AJ: TI).

1995: A juvenile at Blacktoft Sands on 21st August with another recorded there on nine days between 25th September and 8th October (AG *et al*). A juvenile at Broomhill Ings from 14th to 25th October (JHG: DMW *et al*).

Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea*

1994: In spring, singles at Sunk Island on 6th May and Saltend on 23rd with five at Sunk Island on the 13th and two at Edderthorpe on 12th. Light autumn passage with one to three at several locations but generally scarce; four at Wintersett Res. on 10th September with five on 15th; five at Swillington Ings on 13th; six at Poppleton [R. Ouse] on 14th August. Blacktoft Sands had 16 on 7th/8th September with between ten and 13 from the 3rd to 6th.

1995: One at Scorton Quarry on 30th April. In May, singles at Sunk Island on 7th/8th and 19th/20th; Flamborough on 22nd; TLNR on 23rd/24th and finally, Filey on 28th June. A quiet autumn generally but one to four at several locations with larger counts of eight at Blacktoft Sands on 31st July and six there on 7th September; 23 at Cherry Cobb on 10th September whilst Flamborough had an excellent year with five on 25th July; 12 on 19th August and 29 on 12th October.

Purple Sandpiper *Calidris maritima*

1994: Reported during all months at Filey [but on only one day in June] where maxima were 164 on 27th February; 145 on 11th April and 79 in November. At Whitby Harbour; 196 on 25th January and 125 on 22nd October. Up to 80 at Robin Hood's Bay in the latter months and 72 at Staithes. Very few south of Bridlington. Inland, singles at High Batts NR on 11th April; at North Cave GP on 16th September and Blacktoft Sands on 4th October.

1995: Reported all months, except June, at Filey with maxima of 128 on 23rd March and 120 on 31st whilst the highest count at Scarborough was 186 on 8th February. Flamborough recorded up to 32 during the early months and 33 during the latter. No counts received from the Whitby area. Very few south of Bridlington with up to five at Barmston. No inland records this year.

Dunlin *Calidris alpina*

1994: The survey of the Dales NP found some 21 pairs with 11 in the Fountains/Darnbrook Fells area. Five pairs were located in the Barnsley area. Maxima, at Spurn, were 2650 in March; 2000, August; 3170, October; 2080 in December and Sunk Island, 3000 on 24th April and 4600 on 24th July. At Blacktoft Sands, monthly maxima varied from 120 [February] to 515 [March] whilst inland, at the LDNNR, large numbers were present between mid-March and the months' end with 2320+ on the 12th and 1000+ on 31st. Coastal passage light with 357 south at Filey on 29th July and 408 the following day when 285 passed Flamborough; maximum at Spurn was 238 on 25th August. Up to 30 at many inland locations but 70 at Swillington Ings on 15th September and 80+ on 19th November.

1995: Small numbers reported breeding at four locations in the south Pennines; no other breeding reports received. At Spurn, the maxima were 1660 in January; 3260, August; 5000, September then 3200, October with 1370 in November and 1640 in December. Along the Humber, 4000 were at Sunk Island on 11th February and 4600 on 26th October. Further upstream, at Blacktoft Sands, birds were reported almost daily with peaks of 850 on 23rd February; 600 on 29th September; *c.*1159 on 12th October and 395 on 26th November. Inland, record counts at the LDNNR where 1900 were reported on 14th January then small numbers in February though *c.*2128 were recorded on the 26th with 2485+ [record count] on 6th March; numbers remaining high throughout the month. Only small numbers were reported there during the rest of the year. Elsewhere, peaks were 27 at Broomhill Ings on 20th/21st March; 46 at Swillington Ings on 2nd October then in VC65, 41 at Bolton-on-Swale on 7th January with up to 21 at Nosterfield in May. Coastal passage peaked with 2213 at Spurn on 12th October when 525 were reported passing Flamborough with 519 at Spurn on the 22nd when 419 passed Barmston; 195 at Flamborough and 175 at Filey.

Ruff *Philomachus pugnax*

1994: Bred successfully, for the second year running, at the LDNNR when three newly fledged young were seen on 2nd July in company with two females and seven males. At this location maxima were, 131 in January; 88, February; 128, March; 166, November and 89 in December. 34 at Blacktoft Sands on 1st July had increased to 108 on 21st then down to 91 on

30th. Generally 50+ in August but 92 on 16th then maxima of 130 on 9th September; 135 on 23rd October falling to 65 on 3rd November. 72 at Sunk Island on 18th September and 50 on 1st October. 44 at TLNR on 30th September and 1st October whilst 40 were at Kilnsea on 18th September. Excepting a record 59 south at Flamborough on 2nd May, little coastal passage noted. Many locations occasionally reported up to 30 individuals.

1995: Though the last male was thought to have departed from the LDNNR by 12th May, six females were considered to have been incubating by mid-May but no further proof of breeding was forthcoming. Large numbers were at this location with 102 on 7th January then 234 on the 14th after which 100+ were present into February when 136 were counted on the 1st; 151 on the 5th with 104 on 12th and 18th. Up to 71 in March but 128 on 1st April with 102 on the 9th, numbers falling thereafter. During the latter months less than 20 until early December when 56 were reported on the 4th increasing to 104 on 13th and 189 the following day but down to eight by the 31st owing to freezing weather. Elsewhere, in VC61, only small numbers with a peak of 40 at TLNR on 2nd October. Blacktoft Sands, VC63, had birds recorded in all months with peaks of 47 on 30th June; 75 on 15th July then 82 on 26th. 52 on 25th August was the peak in that month then 125 on 8th September with 77 on 8th October and 85 on 4th November. Small numbers occasionally reported at many locations with maxima of 19 at Tickton on 1st January; 13 at Southfield Res. on 19th January; ten at Swillington Ings on 23rd August; 16 near Marske on 19th November and ten at Eccup Res. on 20th November.

Jack Snipe *Lymnocryptes minimus*

1994: Excellent numbers at a site near Leeds [observer wishes location to be with-held] with up to six in January; seven in February; eight in March and 11 in November. Three to four at Wheldrake in October; five at Broomhill Ings on 6th November; four at Worsbrough in early December and four at Leventhorpe Ash Ponds in autumn. Elsewhere, one or two at some 26 locations.

1995: Good numbers at the LDNNR particularly during the latter months; four there on 22nd January then six on 13th October with nine on the 19th; up to nine at Wheldrake in November with singles occasionally elsewhere along the LDNNR. In VC63; eight at Pot Hills Marsh, Upton, on 26th March with up to five there during November/December; five at Aldwarke SF on 15th January with five also at Willow Garth, Knottingley, on the 23rd, five at Gallows Hill, Knaresborough, VC64, on 25th November with eight there on 1st December. One to three were reported from a further 22 locations.

Common Snipe *Gallinago gallinago*

1994: An estimated 210 drumming birds at the LDNNR; in the Doncaster area some 25 pairs bred whilst 182 pairs were found during the breeding bird survey of the Dales NP. Elsewhere, few comments with status assumed to be unchanged. Highest counts being 450 at the LDNNR in February and 310 there in December and excepting 134 at TLNR on 5th November, no other location reported in excess on 100. Up to 60 were at Broomhill Ings during August and September. Little coastal passage noted.

1995: A record 240 drumming birds at the LDNNR; little change in the Doncaster area excepting at Thorpe Marsh where a decline was evident with few summer records and no drumming birds. Bred at five locations in the Sheffield area with displaying birds at a further four. No confirmed breeding reported from VCs 62; 64 or 65. Widespread in both winter periods with peak counts of 360 at the LDNNR in March; 700+ on 1st April, [highest documented count for Yorkshire], and up to 470 in December; 96 at Filey Dams NR on 26th November; 88 at TLNR on 14th September and 60 at Broomhill Ings on 7th and 27th January. Becoming increasingly scarce at Flamborough during the winter months.

Great Snipe *Gallinago media*

1995: One at Northcliffe, Flamborough, on 8th September (PAL); the second for that location. [Not yet submitted to ***BBRC***].

Long-billed Dowitcher *Limnodromus scolopaceus*

1995: A juvenile was found at TLNR on 8th October (PC: PWI: FXM *et al*) being seen on most days until 29th December. The seventh record for Yorkshire.

[***dowitcher sp.*** An adult, in summer plumage flew south at Flamborough on 31st July 1994 and was considered to be Long-billed (DB: BR: MN) [Not yet submitted to ***BBRC***]].

Woodcock *Scolopax rusticola*

1994: Numbers reported as low in the Sheffield area: the only comment received: thus status elsewhere assumed to be unchanged. Indications of an influx in East Yorkshire in February with 14 near TLNR on 11th and six at Flamborough on the 20th. Autumnal influx in October with, on the 20th, 17 at Spurn; 15 at Filey then, on the 21st, 14 at Flamborough; eight at Grimston and eight at Spurn. Another influx noted on 11th November when 11 were at Spurn with ten at Grimston and 13 at Filey whilst 22 were flushed during a shoot, on 12th, at Old Edlington [near Doncaster].

1995: Up to ten in the major moorland cloughs of Cragg Vale; Upper Little Don; Ewden and Agden: some ten pairs at Wilsic with breeding birds at many other Doncaster area sites. Generally status unchanged in VC63 with few comments from other areas. Small numbers along the coast excepting during early November when 27 were at Spurn on 2nd [location record] whilst Flamborough had 40 on the 12th. Inland, few counts reported but *c.*50 flushed during a shoot at Ripley on 19th December; 13 at TLNR on 28th February with up to 15 on 5th December whilst 20 were at the LDNNR on 27th December.

Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa*

1994: Again, attempted to breed at the LDNNR and, once again, failed. Good spring passage there with 26 on 21st April; 28 on 22nd; 118 on 28th and 15 on 30th. Frequent at Blacktoft Sands in small numbers from 27th March with maxima of 15 on 1st July and 14 on 22nd. Along the lower Humber quite frequent, particularly in autumn, with peak counts at Sunk Island of 73 on 6th and 53 on 20th August; in September, 46 on 18th; 66 on 19th and 48 on 26th. One to six occasionally at many locations but 36 at Masham on 5th May with 14 at Swillington Ings on 12th July and 16 on the 13th. Only light coastal passage reported, usually one to six birds recorded, though 13 south at Spurn on 29th August.

1995: Small numbers at the LDNNR during the early months with two pairs at the end of March then one pair holding territory in April. The female was thought to be on eggs by mid-month though both birds disappeared in early May and assumed to have failed. However, on 22nd June, a pair appeared with a very small juvenile [assumed to have re-laid]. This is the first successful breeding occurrence here since 1985. Maximum at this location being 52 on 29th April. Smaller numbers along the Humber than in recent years with 22 at Sunk Island on 8th July then 81 on 19th August and 53 on 8th September. 54 at Cherry Cobb on 10th September being the peak count there. In VC63; Blacktoft Sands had 37 on 15th April with 31 on 31st July; elsewhere in this VC, 22 were at Edderthorpe on 15th April with one or two at a further 12 locations. One or two at seven locations in VC64 with three at Swillington Ings on 12th April and four on 26th May. Scarce in VC65 with singles on one day only at Pallet Hill and Scorton Quarry but three at Stapleton on 18th August. Small numbers along the coast excepting 16 at Spurn on 13th August; 21 south at Filey on the 8th with 14 south there on the 15th.

Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica*

1994: Numbers on the Humber low with 224 at Sunk Island on 6th February and 80 on both 29th October and 19th November. Only small numbers at Spurn with maximum of 30 on 27th November. Further upstream, single birds not infrequent at Blacktoft Sands but 17 there on 9th September. Very light coastal passage though 76 left to the east at Spurn on 2nd May with 42 the following day. Small numbers occasionally reported inland, invariably single birds but two at Spennithorne on 26th March; two at Southfield Res. on 2nd May and two at Swillington Ings on 3rd December.

1995: Along the Humber "very low numbers" at Sunk Island with maxima of 183 on 14th January; 140 on 11th February and 40 on 24th December whilst, at nearby Cherry Cobb, "biggest count for years" of 552 on 12th November and 343 on 17th December. Up to 44 at Spurn until mid-September when numbers increased to 126 on the 18th then a record count of 463 on the 21st. High numbers of 200 to 363 present there during the first half of October after

which less than 30 were recorded excepting 106 on 17th December. 82 at Bran Sands on 14th January and 58 at Barmston on 5th January. Very light passage reported from all coastal locations. Away from the coast, 28 flew west at Blacktoft Sands on 28th August with ten northwest at Thrybergh CP on the 30th. One or two occasionally reported from some 17 inland locations but four at Gouthwaite Res. on 28th August.

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*

1994: Four at Pulfin Bog on 9th April were the first then up to four daily at Wheldrake Ings from the 11th to 21st. Elsewhere, birds were reported at Blacktoft Sands on 18th and Spurn on 20th. The roost at Wheldrake Ings held record numbers with counts of 39 on 22nd; 90 on 24th; 112 on 25th and 28th with 117 on the 30th. In May, 121 on 2nd; 137 on 3rd [record] and 127 on the 5th with the last on the 14th. 46 were at Sunk Island on 7th May and 31 at Flamborough the same day. Return passage from early July with 73 near Skeffling on 16th then, on the following day, 14 at Whitestone Point; 86 at Filey and 56 at Flamborough. 69 at Filey on the 29th when 22 passed Long Nab and 24 at Staithes. 103 were at Flamborough on 2nd August with the last of the year there on 25th September.

1995: One at South Gare on 19th March with two at Chelker Res. the following day were exceptionally early; the next being at the LDNNR on 7th April and Flamborough on the 8th. Coastal passage, in spring, was light excepting 90 north at Barmston on 20th April. The roost at Wheldrake Ings held 23 on 18th April then 53 on 19th/20th with varying numbers thereafter of 79 on 28th; 86 on 29th; 107 on 1st May with 89 on 2nd; 70 on 3rd; 99 on the 4th and 76 on the 5th. Additionally, 185 flew north there on 29th April. In autumn, very heavy passage on 8th August with 390 south at Filey [Yorkshire record]; 258 at Grimston and 91 in from the east at Spurn. Only small counts at Flamborough with 61 on 5th August as the maximum. The last were singles at Flamborough on 7th October and at Ness Point on the 24th. One summered on the Humber.

Curlew *Numenius arquata*

1994: 464 breeding pairs were located by the survey of the Dales NP; 21 pairs reported breeding in the Barnsley area and a record 73 pairs reported from the LDNNR. No comments received from other areas. On the estuary; 1620 at Sunk Island on 15th January with 1250 on 19th November. Inland, numbers at Wheldrake Ings peaked at 298 on 13th March; 180 at Silsden on 12th March with 200 at Malham Tarn on the 19th and 200 there on 23rd June. In the winter months, 570 were at Bolton-on-Swale on 4th January with 469 on 11th November whilst 180 were recorded at Otley GP in January.

1995: Good numbers bred on the moorlands of VC63 whilst continuing to expand slowly in the lowlands. Another good breeding season in the LDNNR where a record 97 pairs were present with a notable increase in breeding pairs on the adjacent arable land [19 pairs against eight in 1994]. No apparent change in status elsewhere. Maximum at Spurn was 587 in November whilst, along the Humber, 960 were at Sunk Island on 4th February; 900 on 24th September and 1250 on 7th October. Maxima on the LDNNR were 403 on 6th March; 612 on 12th March and 320+ on 26th. In VC63; 115 at Blacktoft Sands on 20th June; 80 at Blaxton at the end of December and 80 at Walshaw Dene on 20th March. 500 were reported at Malham Tarn on 22nd June; 400 at Denton Park on 30th November whilst *c.*250 were in the Reva Res./Hawksworth Moor area in early October. Maximum in VC65 was 247 at Bolton-on-Swale on 15th January. Coastal passage light.

Spotted Redshank *Tringa erythropus*

1994: The over-wintering individual at Blacktoft Sands remained throughout January and February whilst at the end of the year up to three were present there until 14th December with two until the years' end. Excepting Blacktoft Sands, very scarce until autumn with singles at only four locations. An average autumn with one to four at many locations between mid-July and late October but only Blacktoft Sands reported higher counts with over ten on nine days between 4th September and 8th October peaking at 16 on 29th September.

1995: Again wintered at Blacktoft Sands where up to three were present during the period

January to March and up to four in December. Other locations with birds reported in winter were Sunk Island; a single on 28th January, and the LDNNR with one from 26th February to 21st March. Few spring records; up to four at Blacktoft Sands; up to three at the LDNNR with one at Wykeham Lakes on 7th April and one at TLNR on 1st May. More numerous and widespread during autumn though only small numbers; up to four at Blacktoft Sands; four at Edderthorpe on 18th September and five at Swillington Ings on several days in September/October.

Redshank *Tringa totanus*

1994: A record 130 pairs bred at the LDNNR whilst some 20 pairs bred in the Doncaster area and 64 pairs located by the survey of the Dales NP. Overall, little change was reported in breeding numbers though a pair at Wintersett Res. was the first since the early 1960s. Maximum counts were, 605 at Sunk Island on 16th April; at Spurn, 1000 on 24th July; 2400 on 27th August; 3000 on 8th September and up to 1400 in October. Further upstream, at Blacktoft Sands, 95 were reported on 25th August with 93 on 14th September. Small numbers along the coast with maxima of 107 at Filey in February and 105 at Flamborough on 16th January. Little coastal passage; maxima being 98 at Flamborough on 9th July and 110 at Filey on the 24th although 200 were in flooded fields at Jackson's Bay [Scarborough] on 26th January. Quite widespread inland maxima being 56 at Spennithorne on 26th March and up to 39 at Nosterfield in June.

1995: Continues to increase as a breeding bird in the LDNNR with an estimated 200 pairs. Not proven to have bred anywhere else in VC61 [not a true reflection]. Not reported as breeding in VC62 whilst in VC63, a few breeding pairs were located on the moorlands and some 30 pairs present in the lowland areas of the Doncaster/Barnsley/Sheffield areas. Maxima at Spurn were 1128 in February; 2000 in August; 3000 in September/October and 1740 in November. Along the Humber, at Sunk Island, 500 were present on 8th April and 640 on 18th September. Further upstream, maxima at Blacktoft Sands were 45 in February; 58 in June; 90 in July and 109 on 9th September with 71 in October. Wintering numbers at Pulfin Bog were 43 in January and 50 in February whilst at the LDNNR, 150 in January; 186 on 11th February with 381 on the 26th then 396 on 6th March and 417 on 14th [location record] decreasing to 383 on 25th. Smaller numbers there in the latter months with a peak of 112 on 14th December. In VC62, 150 near Jackson's Bay on 19th January and 200 at Cornelian Bay on 17th February; both good counts for the Scarborough area. Small numbers in both VC64 and VC65; 44 at Swillington Ings on 20th April being the maximum.

Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*

1994: One at the LDNNR occasionally in January and February with one at Blacktoft Sands on 4th December. Many locations reported up to four in spring but seven at Cayton Carrs on 17th May. More widespread in autumn with larger numbers; maxima being 18 at Sunk Island on 5th August with ten on 25th; up to 15 at Swillington Ings during August and up to 15 also at TLNR during that same month. 21 at Blacktoft Sands on 22nd August and 13 at Broomhill Ings on 1st September. One at Sunk Island on 8th October was still present at the end of the year.

1995: One at the LDNNR from 6th to 8th January being the only early winter record. Spring passage was light; one to three birds at all locations excepting four at Burton Riggs GP on 25th April. More widespread in autumn with many locations reporting one to nine birds; larger numbers being; in VC61; 20 at Spurn on 8th September; in VC63; 15 at Blacktoft Sands on 14th July and 27 on the 29th; at Broomhill Ings; 11 present almost daily from early August into September with 14 on 27th August whilst ten were at Wintersett Res. on 20th August. No locations in VCs 62; 64 or 65 held more than the nine at Swillington Ings in August. One at Flamborough on 1st December.

Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus*

1994: Reported during the early months at several locations with up to three at Broomhill Ings and Knostrop SF and up to four at TLNR. Spring passage light. More numerous and wide-

spread in autumn with many locations reporting up to 12. Higher counts were recorded at Knostrop SF with 16 on 10th September; 18 at the LDNNR on 25th August; 22 at Blacktoft Sands on 3rd August; 23 at Broomhill Ings on 14th August and 33 at TLNR on 1st August. Several locations recorded birds during the latter months with up to two at TLNR; at least five at Knostrop SF in November and up to two at Broomhill Ings in December.

1995: Up to four at both Knostrop SF and the Pocklington Canal/Bielby Beck areas of the LDNNR during the early months with one or two in this period at a further 17 locations. Spring passage was light with no more than four at any location. Widespread in autumn with many sites reporting up to ten birds at times. Higher counts were 14 at TLNR on 14th July then 23 on 31st with 25 on 3rd and 15th August decreasing to 16 on 1st September. 14 at Blacktoft Sands on 29th July; up to 15 at Thorpe Marsh in July; 12 at Edderthorpe on 16th August; 18 at Broomhill Ings on 29th August and ten at Dale Pit Quarry in August. During November/December, singles reported at many locations with up to two occasionally at Knostrop SF and up to five at the LDNNR.

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*

1994: Up to two at some 13 locations during spring but three at both Broomhill Ings and Edderthorpe on 31st May whilst four were reported from Filey Dams NR on 13th May with up to three remaining to the 19th. Slightly more widespread in autumn, again, usually one or two birds though three were at TLNR on 15th August and three at Aldbrough on the 14th.

1995: An early bird at Blacktoft Sands on 13th April. A quiet spring with one or two birds at some 20 locations but three at Sunk Island on 29th May whilst as many as eight individuals may have passed through Pallet Hill in early May. Only slightly more widespread in autumn; again only one or two birds at all locations excepting Filey Dams NR where four were present on 13th August. One remained at that location from 9th to 13th October.

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*

1994: First was on 7th April at Swillington Ings then on 13th at both Wintersett Res. and Anglers' CP. Numbers during spring were low with seven at Wykeham Lakes as the most reported. Breeding status apparently unchanged though 20 pairs at Grimwith Res. was a remarkable figure. More widespread and numerous in autumn with maxima reported being 12 at Blacktoft Sands on 25th August; up to 13 at Gouthwaite Res. in July and 31 at Grimwith Res. on 14th July. Most had departed by mid-September but four at TLNR on 1st October. Late departures were singles at Hay-a-Park GP on 19th November and Thrybergh CP from the 17th to 20th.

1995: One on the R. Rother at Beighton on 29th January otherwise the first migrants were early birds at Swillington Ings on 16th March with another there on the 22nd. The next was at Edderthorpe on 4th April with most locations reporting their first between the 8th and 16th. Maxima in spring were 20 at Gouthwaite Res. in May with 53 at Grimwith Res. on the 2nd. Little change noted in breeding status though down at one or two areas of VC64. Maxima, post breeding, were also in VC64 with up to 16 at Gouthwaite Res. in June and 34 at Grimwith Res. on the 21st. Last of the year were singles at Pugneys' CP and Hay-a-Park GP, both on 7th October.

Spotted Sandpiper *Actitis macularia*

1994: An adult, in summer plumage, at South Gare, on 16th June (DCn). The 11th record for Yorkshire.

Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*

1994: At Spurn, up to 50 in most months though 150 on 11th August then 178 on 28th and up to 260 in September and October. Up to 60 at Filey but 115 there on 5th December whilst at Flamborough, up to 75 in spring and autumn with winter maximum on 182 on 11th December. Four were at Blacktoft Sands on both 30th July and 16th October. Recorded at 11 locations inland, invariably one or two birds at all, however, up to three were at Nosterfield between 21st and 28th May; three at Broomhill Ings on 29th August; three at Wintersett Res.

on 31st August and six at Southfield Res. on 13th May.
1995: Up to 75 at Spurn during the early months then, between mid-July and the end of October, up to 160, thereafter, no more than 60. Along the coast, up to 70 in spring at Flamborough with slightly lower counts in autumn. Maximum at Filey was 90 on 18th February whilst further north 120 were in Cornelian Bay on 17th February and 80 at Port Mulgrave on 29th July. Little coastal passage reported. Quite well distributed inland, particularly in spring with one to three at some 19 locations whilst four were at Nosterfield on 20th May; five at Blacktoft Sands on 24th May and eight at Swillington Ings on the 14th. Lesser numbers at fewer locations during the autumn.

Red-necked Phalarope *Phalaropus lobatus*
1995: A juvenile at Southfield Res. on 3rd September, came in from the northwest, settled briefly before departing in the same direction (CF). This was possibly the bird seen at Blacktoft Sands, also on that day.

Grey Phalarope *Phalaropus fulicarius*
1994: A first year bird was at Ripley Lake from 26th to 29th August. (GW: JMc). One flew from the west at Sunk Island on 25th September but only remained for minutes before departing to the southeast (JW). One off Marine Drive, Scarborough, on 18th October (RHA) with one at Filey on 19th November (GC *et al*). [An unidentified bird, in rough seas, off Flamborough on 3rd September, was thought to have been this species].
1995: A good year with singles at South Gare on 12th and 26th January (MABl: JMY *et al*) and Filey from 22nd January to 5th February (AN *et al*). One, a female, at Swillington Ings, on 20th May. During the latter months; singles at Flamborough on 28th September; at Spurn on 21st October; Flamborough on 23rd then, in November, at Filey, from 1st to 4th (KS *et al*); Spurn and Scarborough on the 2nd (RHA) then three flying north at the latter location on the 3rd (RHA) with three also at Flamborough that same day (per PAL). Singles reported on the 4th at Spurn; Scarborough; Flamborough and at Filey on the 26th (LG *et al*). In December, two at South Gare on the 4th/5th (APF *et al*) then singles at Flamborough on the 18th and South Gare on the 31st (JLS). Inland, singles were reported from Lockwood Beck Res. on 1st October (ETJ); Malham Tarn on 30th/31st October and TLNR on 4th November (PMo: M & TBr.).

Pomarine Skua *Stercorarius pomarinus*
1994: Generally a poor year. One south at Filey on 17th January (PJD). No spring records with the first of the autumn occurring in early July. Numbers thereafter were generally low with peaks on 1st September when 17 passed Staithes; 26 at Filey; nine at Flamborough and six at Spurn; on 3rd October, 37 off Filey; 34 at Flamborough; then, on the 16th, 17 north at Whitestone Point; 40 at Flamborough and four at Spurn. Occasionally along the Humber with singles at Sunk Island on 30th July and 21st September whilst three flew west there on 20th August. The only inland record involved an immature at Carlton Memorial Lake on 3rd October. The last were singles at Flamborough on 25th November and 3rd December.
1995: Comments varied between "a poor year" and "an average year". Two at Flamborough on 11th January with one the following day then singles on 11th and 18th February. One north at Barmston on 29th March after which only two spring records; singles at Barmston on 13th May and at Spurn on the 22nd. Early returning [non-breeding] birds occasionally at Flamborough in June with three on the 10th then more widespread in July with records from Spurn; Barmston; Flamborough and Filey, invariably one or two individuals but three at Spurn on the 29th and eight at Flamborough on the 7th. 158 passed Flamborough during August, [nearly all adults], with peaks of 34 on the 8th; 16 on 26th; 11 on 27th and 19 on the 29th. Elsewhere, 40 passed north at South Gare on the 6th with ten north at Filey on the 7th when 17 were reported from Spurn and 28 at Barmston. Seven at Hornsea on the 8th with eight that day at Grimston; 14 at Filey and 13 at Barmston. September was disappointing at Flamborough with only 63 birds in all of which 19 passed on the 29th whilst five at Spurn on the 24th was the maximum there. Few in October with 12 at Flamborough on the 21st, the only record of more than two birds whilst November was only a little better but ten at Flamborough on the 1st

when four passed South Gare; 12 at Barmston on the 3rd when seven were reported at South Gare and three at Scarborough. Reported on five days along the Humber at Sunk Island, singles on three with two on both the 8th September and 11th November.

Arctic Skua *Stercorarius parasiticus*

1994: Two winter records, both of single birds, at Filey on 7th January and at Spurn on 14th February. Occasionally single birds were reported in May at both Flamborough and Spurn but three were recorded at the latter on the 21st; occasionally in June then regularly to early November. An average autumn with days of peak passage being the 31st August when 140 passed Flamborough and 123 were off Spurn; on the 1st September, 315 flew south at Staithes; 150 north at Whitestone Point; 194 south at Scarborough; 332 south at Filey; 346 south at Flamborough and 368 south at Spurn. The 3rd October produced 85 south at Scarborough with 126 south at Filey; 95 south at Flamborough but only three at Spurn. Recorded fairly regularly along the Humber in late August and September with 22 on 22nd August and 20 the following day. Single birds were reported inland at Denaby Ings on 16th June; Fly Flatts Res. on 25th August with another on the 26th; Nosterfield on 11th September; Wintersett Res. on the 15th and Thorne Moors on the 20th.

1995: An average year. Two at Flamborough on 11th January with one on the 12th [*cf* Pomarine Skua] then no more until April. Light spring passage reported along the coast but no more than three at any location. Small numbers during June and July with the bulk of the birds passing in August when 2122 were reported at Flamborough. Peak passage days that month were 23rd with 212 at Flamborough; the 26th when 35 were at South Gare; 54 at Saltburn and 359 at Flamborough. On the 27th; 161 south at Filey with 320 at Flamborough and 68 at Spurn whilst on the following day 150 flew south at Staithes; 104 south at Filey; 175 at Flamborough and 40 at Spurn. Smaller numbers reported in September with peak counts of 32 at Scarborough on the 11th; 57 on the 1st and 100 on the 30th, at Flamborough; 33 at Barmston on the 7th and, at Spurn, 32 on the 16th; 28 on 17th with 24 on the 30th. Maxima in October were 25 at Flamborough on the 1st with 31 on 21st and 14 at Spurn on the 20th. 11 at Flamborough on 4th November. Only two December records; singles at Barmston on the 1st and Filey on the 4th. 15 at Sunk Island was the peak count along the Humber whilst a juvenile at TLNR, from 15th to 17th September and again on the 19th, was the only inland record.

Long-tailed Skua *Stercorarius longicaudus*

1994: Quite a good year with 113 birds at Flamborough and 21 at Filey. Peak days were; 14th August with five at Flamborough then six there on both the 23rd and 31st. On the 1st September, seven passed Staithes with 16 at Scarborough; three at Filey; 31 at Flamborough and five at Spurn. Seven were reported off Flamborough on the 2nd with eight on the 3rd. On 3rd October; 11 passed Filey and 12, Flamborough with four at the latter location on the 5th. One, on the Humber, at Sunk Island, on 1st October. A juvenile frequented a golf course at High Skirlington [near Hornsea] from 6th to 15th October whilst the only truly inland record was of a juvenile at Broomhill Flash on 29th August (HC: JCW: DMW *et al*).

1995: A good year with a total of 135 at Flamborough. Singles at Barmston on 12th and 27th July with one at Spurn, over the river, on the 26th then record numbers in August with, on the 7th, 17 at Staithes; 29 at Filey; 18 at Flamborough; four at Grimston and two at Spurn. On the 8th; four at Staithes; 11 at Filey; 41 at Flamborough; seven at Barmston; 13 at Hornsea and eight at Grimston. One or two thereafter occasionally at Filey; Spurn; Flamborough; Hornsea; Grimston and Barmston but seven at Flamborough on the 27th with 12 there on the 28th and seven on the 30th. Smaller numbers recorded in September with peaks of six at Scarborough on the 11th; three at Flamborough on the 5th and eight on the 6th. Two juveniles passed Flamborough on 21st October with two adults at Spurn on the 3rd November.

Great Skua *Catharacta skua*

1994: Singles at Flamborough on 16th January and Hornsea on 15th April [singles on one day in January and April at Filey but dates not stated]. Spring passage light. In autumn, moderate passage on 1st September with 50 at Staithes; 26 at Whitestone Point; eight at

Scarborough; 87 at Filey; 41 at Flamborough and 25 at Spurn. On the 14th, 29 were reported from Spurn whilst on the 15th; 42 were at Filey and, on the 16th; 61 at Flamborough. In October; 40 at Flamborough on the 3rd and 25 on the 16th. Singles occasionally in December at Filey and Flamborough with three at the latter on both 27th and 31st. The only inland record was of an exhausted juvenile at Denaby Ings present from the 1st to 4th September before being, regrettably, killed by youths.

1995: A better year than of late at Flamborough but poor at Filey. Occasionally reported from Filey; Whitby and Flamborough in January, all singles, excepting three at the last location on the 3rd. Similar status in April and May with a slight increase in June/July then, in August, good numbers passing Flamborough with a total of 555 peaking with 98 on the 26th; 63 on 27th; 78 on 28th and 60 on the 31st. The only other count of note being 41 at Filey on the 26th. Peaks at Flamborough, in September were 26 on the 8th; 25 on 17th and 38 on 30th whilst, although October was a relatively quiet month, 103 passed Flamborough on the 21st and then 20 on 4th November. No other location reported more than seven during these last two months. In December, singles on five days at Flamborough and on seven at Filey; one at South Gare/Redcar from the 14th to 17th and again at South Gare on the 23rd. Occasionally along the Humber, at Sunk Island, with three there on 18th September. One inland, at Southfield Res. on 14th September.

Mediterranean Gull *Larus melanocephalus*

1994: Display was noted by a pair at Swillington Ings in mid-March. Now widespread with records of one or two birds at some 33 locations. Four together at Swillington Ings on 26th March [all adults] with three there on 28th whilst three [one adult and two first-winter birds] were at Wintersett Res. on 20th November.

1995: Continues to increase. Many locations reported up to two birds with three together at Flamborough, where a record year was reported, on the 10th; 16th and 27th October. Frequently during April at Seamer Road Mere [all first-winter birds] and Scalby Mills. Three occasionally at Eccup Res. with four there on 20th October. During May, three first-winter birds plus two first-winter hybrids were present in the gullery at Wheldrake Ings.

Franklin's Gull *Larus pipixcan*

1995: A moulting adult flew south, close in-shore, at Flamborough on 9th October (PAL). [Not yet submitted to ***BBRC***].

Little Gull *Larus minutus*

1994: Occasionally reported during the winter months with small numbers in spring and summer. Quite widespread in autumn though with, regrettably, few reports received from Hornsea Mere where 200 were recorded on 26th July; 1900 on 7th September and 1120 the following day. 320 were roosting on the sea off Hornsea on 9th August with a similar count on 1st September. Peak counts at Flamborough were 144 on 4th September with 180 on 11th and 451 on the 22nd.

1995: Remains scarce during the winter and spring though 19 were reported at Sunk Island on 28th April. Numbers at Hornsea Mere had increased to 110 by 27th July then 230 on 2nd August but only 150+ on the 28th however, 310 were present there on 1st September and 514 on 3rd October. 94 at Barmston on 17th August with 305 there on 8th September. Flamborough reported a record year with large numbers being recorded on many days; the total number being well in excess of 26,000. Peak counts were 806 on 19th August with 691 on the 20th. In September; 2680 on 14th; 3093 on 17th; 4100 on 21st [Yorkshire record]; 1100 on the 23rd whilst, in October, 875 on 16th; 533 on 17th; 726 on the 18th then 722 on the 21st with 661 on 28th. 532 on 4th November being the maximum for that month thereafter numbers declined rapidly. Strangely this movement was not observed at Filey where the only count of note was of 305 south on 12th November [which in turn was not noted off Flamborough]. Conversely, Spurn reported northerly passage in mid-September with daily totals of 73; 131; 79; 30; 53 and 239 between the 16th and 21st. In October, 59 on 22nd; 33 on 23rd and 39 on the 30th with 50 on the 1st November. The only counts of note reported from north of Filey were 40 near

Staithes on 3rd November with 16 at Ness Point on the 4th. 38 were at Sunk Island, along the Humber, on 3rd November. Only small numbers inland, usually one or two individuals, but three at the LDNNR on 11th April with three there on 16th June; three at Blackmoorfoot Res. on 4th/5th January and three at Blacktoft Sands on 23rd May.

Sabine's Gull *Larus sabini*

1994: A first-summer individual off Flamborough on 6th August with what was possibly the same bird at Hornsea on the 8th and Grimston/East Newton from the 9th to 11th. At Flamborough; adult on 10th and 16th August; a juvenile on the 22nd and an adult on the 31st; adults on 10th and 11th September and, finally, an adult on the 3rd October. This last bird having also been reported at Filey on the same day.

1995: A good year at Flamborough with, in August, a juvenile on the 20th; an adult on the 28th with a juvenile from the 28th to the 29th. In September, single juveniles on the 1st; 4th; 9th; 20th and 25th with two on the 10th and 28th whilst adults were present on the 5th; 28th and 29th. A juvenile was reported at Spurn on 16th September, with another [same?] the following day whilst, at Filey, an adult was recorded on 11th November.

Black-headed Gull *Larus ridibundus*

1994: Reported breeding at the LDNNR, [2200 pairs]; Potteric Carr, [30 pairs]; Old Denaby [small numbers]; Masham GP, [2000 birds]; Upper Barden Res., [2698 pairs]; Gill Beck Head, [491 pairs]; Barden Fell, [500 pairs]; Knostrop SF, [100 pairs]; Hebden, [30 pairs]; Swillington Ings, [one pair] whilst reported breeding but no counts at Dallowgill, Mickletown Ings and Fairburn Ings. Very high counts were recorded at the LDNNR with 55,000 on 20th January; 30,000 on the 21st and 20,000 on 4th February. TLNR also reported exceptional counts of 24,000 to 46,000 from mid-October to mid-November with 46,000 on 20th October and 36,000 on the 5th November. One found dead at Hornsea on 22nd January had been ringed as a juvenile in Finland on 13th June 1992.

1995: At the LDNNR, a record 2910 pairs bred at Wheldrake Ings with a further 250 at North Duffield Carrs and ten at Bank Island though the last two colonies were deserted as water levels fell. No reports from VC62 whilst in VC63, 165 pairs bred at Potteric Carr; 64 at Hatfield Moors; 42 at Pugneys' CP and 33 at Wroot; no count from Thorne Moors. 3062 pairs were reported from Barden, VC64, with 584 at nearby Gill Beck Head; c850 at Masham GP; 60 at Knostrop SF, 14 at Swillington Ings; ten at Staveley NR [all failed] and Mickletown Ings [no count received]. Not reported as breeding in VC65. As usual, large gatherings [up to 10,000] were reported from many locations with 23,000 at the LDNNR on 18th February; 33,000+ on 25th; 17,000 on 11th October and 20,000 south at dusk on 6th December. 35,000 roosted at Barmston in late September with up to 12,000 at TLNR in March; 21,700 on 11th October; 19,500 on 3rd November. Maximum in VC63 being 12,000 at Pugneys' CP in November whilst, in VC64, 15,000 were at Eccup Res. in January with 12,000 at Swillington Ings, also in January. 17,000 at Bolton-on-Swale, VC65, on 25th November.

Common Gull *Larus canus*

1994: One pair bred in the gull colony at the Upper Barden Res. whilst two birds were at a gull colony on Dallowgill Moor on 14th May. Large counts at the LDNNR where 15,000 were present on 20th January and up to 12,000 regularly during February. Record counts at TLNR in October/November with maxima of 21,000 on 20th October and 25,500 on 5th November. 5000 at Hunmanby on 23rd/24th March; 5000 at Eccup Res. on 1st January and during December whilst 3100 at Bolton-on-Swale on 16th January was also a location record.

Large "dark-backed" birds, probably *L.c. heinei* were reported from Flamborough on 19th February and at Bolton-on-Swale from 11th to 14th December.

1995: A pair bred at Barden but with no success. Counts this year at the LDNNR were low with a maximum of 5000+ on 27th March. TLNR had very large numbers with maxima of 12,000 in January; 14,000 in February; 16,000 in March; 16,500 in October; 24,500 in November [3rd] and 16,250 in December. 1100 at Southfield Res. on 6th November was the highest count reported from VC63 whilst, in VC64, peaks were, at Eccup Res., 5000 in

January; 4000 in February then less than 3000 in autumn/winter owing to low water levels. 1000+ at Pool in February; 1000 at Swillington Ings in December and 3000+ at Swinsty Res. on 22nd January.

Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus*

1994: Several pairs bred successfully on Barden Fell with 15 pairs at Barden Res. [moved from the main site on Barden Fell which failed due to control methods]. One pair at Malham Tarn. Small numbers in the east with maximum of 119 at Sunk Island on 4th August. In the west and north, maxima were 4000 at Wintersett Res. on 25th October; 2210 at Bolton-on-Swale on 28th June with up to 1656 during October at Blackmoorfoot Res. and 1250 in September at Redmires Res.

Individuals attributed to one of the Scandinavian races, *L.f. fuscus* or *L.f. intermedius* were reported from at least 19 locations.

1995: No breeding success reported from the Barden Moor colony due to "control measures" but five pairs nested at the Barden Res. Black-headed Gull colony. Scarce in the east with very small numbers at both Spurn and Filey; slightly larger counts reported at Flamborough with a maximum of 77 of the British race *L.f. graellsii* on 28th May and 19 of one of the Scandinavian races, *L.f. fuscus* or *L.f. intermedius* on 11th March. 127 of the race *L.f. graellsii*, on 26th February, was the maximum reported at the LDNNR . Further inland, in VC63, several locations reported 600+ in autumn with peaks of 683 at Blackmoorfoot Res. in September; 906 at Thornton Moor Res. on 21st August; 950+ at Ardsley Res. in July and 3150 at Southfield Res. on 21st September. Numbers, in VC64, were lower but several locations occasionally recorded in excess of 100 birds during the early months with higher counts of 200 at Swillington Ings in March and 150 at Eccup Res. during the same period. 100 to 500, mainly juveniles, were at Newsam Green Tip in summer with 830 being reported near Great Preston on 8th August whilst several other locations reported 250+. 1100 at Bolton-on-Swale was the maximum for VC65 [20th July] with 453 recorded at Nosterfield in June and up to 450 in October.

Herring Gull *Larus argentatus*

1994: Breeding status along the coast apparently stable [no comments received]. Four pairs bred at Upper Barden Res. Distribution would also appear to be unchanged with maxima reported being 1300 at Broomhill Ings on 8th January; 3125 at Flamborough on 9th January; 1200 at Wintersett Res. on 13th January with 1500 at Swillington Ings during both January and December; 4400 at Flamborough on 3rd December and 2500 at Bolton-on-Swale on the 30th.

Dark, nominate birds, *L.a. argentatus*, were reported in record numbers at Flamborough where 390 were present on 9th January and 335 on 3rd December.

Individuals of the southern *"cachinnans"* group are now quite widespread with many locations reporting up to three whilst four were at Broomhill Ings on 30th July.

1995: At least 40 pairs bred in Filey town otherwise no comments were forthcoming concerning breeding along the coast. Two pairs bred in the Black-headed Gull colony at Upper Barden Res. Maxima reported during the year were, 3000 at Swillington Ings in early January; 4200 at Bolton-on-Swale during January; 2300 at Flamborough on 26th August with 2200 there on 1st September whilst up to 3200 were reported at Bolton-on-Swale in December.

Birds attributed to the nominate race *L.a. argentatus* were quite widespread particularly at Flamborough where large counts were reported during the early months with 174 on 22nd January, and, during the latter months, 223 on 25th November and a record of 640 on 1st December.

Individuals attributed to the southern *"cachinnans"* group again were more widespread with one to three birds frequently reported from many of the well-watched locations, particularly in the south of VC63, where Southfield Res. reported five on 28th September and 9th October plus nine on the 29th September.

Iceland Gull *Larus glaucoides*

1994: Quite widespread during the early months with birds being reported from some 29 locations and Flamborough reporting "the best year on record". Numbers in the more western

areas of VCs 63 and 64 probably inflated by individuals commuting between adjacent sites. Occasionally two birds reported together at Swillington Ings; Ardsley Res.; Broomhead Res.; Farnham GP.; Eccup Res. and Flamborough. The last bird of the spring being reported from the Scarborough/Wykeham area on 8th May. Far scarcer during the latter months with single birds being reported from only 11 locations.

1995: Regularly reported from some 19 locations in VCs 63 and 64 though, with individuals frequently moving between sites, difficult to assess the total numbers involved. Quite frequent along the coast where Flamborough reported "a good year". In all areas the bulk of the records occurred in the early months and invariably concerned single birds though, particularly at Flamborough, two birds were occasionally reported together.

Glaucous Gull *Larus hyperboreus*

1994: Not as numerous as Iceland Gull; Flamborough, in fact, indicating "the worst year on record". Single birds were reported from 21 locations during the early months with the last being at Swillington Ings on 20th May. Only eight locations reported birds during the latter months; all concerned single individuals.

1995: A great improvement at Flamborough though numbers reported were not as high as during the late 1980s. A total of 18 birds were reported there but no more than two in any one day. Frequent in the Whitby area but again never more than two together. Well distributed in VC63, especially around Doncaster where at least six individuals were reported at Dunscroft Tip during the period January-March. Possibly less frequent in VC64 than Iceland Gull and, as with that species, more frequent during the early months than the latter.

Great Black-backed Gull *Larus marinus*

1994: Reported as increasingly scarce in the Sheffield area. Maxima reported at Flamborough were 1450 on 9th January; 2700 on 18th September with 2450 on 3rd December. 1290 at TLNR on 26th October otherwise no other location reported more than 1000. Up to 800 at Swillington Ings during January whilst the same number were at Broomhill Ings on 13th February.

1995: Numbers apparently increased in the east but generally lower in the west. Counts at Flamborough during the early months were low with a peak of 912 on 2nd January but above average during the latter months when maxima were: 2715 on 15th September; 2250 on the 20th and 2050 on 22nd October being followed by a record count [for location and Yorkshire] of 5472 on 1st December. On that same day 1020 flew south at Barmston. Inland, at TLNR, large numbers were present on many occasions; monthly maxima being 1420, January; 810, February; 670, October; 2000, November and 1250, December. Maxima in VC63 were considered low with only three counts in excess of the 350 at Broomhill Ings on 4th February; those being 400 at Pugneys' CP in November/December; 500 at Wintersett Res. on 11th January and 525 at Ardsley Res. on 30th December. Roost maxima in VC64, away from Swillington Ings, were low. That location reported 700 in January and 1000 in December otherwise the 250 at Bar Lane GP in December was the best count. 625 at Bolton-on-Swale during January was the highest count reported from VC65.

Ross's Gull *Rhodostethia rosea*

1995: An excellent year. A first-winter individual at Filey on 30th January seen to depart to the south (LG: JS: HJW). An adult flew north at Flamborough on 4th March. (DB: MN: BR) whilst an adult at Filey on 11th June (PJS: JS) flew off to the north to appear at Teesmouth on the 12th. [The Flamborough bird has yet to be submitted to ***BBRC***].

Kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla*

1994: No comments/counts received from the Bempton RSPB Reserve. 1311 nests counted on Scarborough Castle headland. Invariably the largest counts were reported from Flamborough with maxima of 83,340 on 25th June and 47,800 on 7th August. 230 moved east along the Humber, at Sunk Island, on 27th August. Small numbers occasionally reported from inland locations but 31 at the LDNNR during westerly gales on 25th January was unusual

whilst exceptional passage was noted in South Yorkshire on 19th March with 182 west at Midhope Moor; 18 south plus 22 west at Wintersett Res. and 32 west at Blackmoorfoot Res.
1995: Yet again, no comments from the Bempton RSPB Reserve. A small increase in breeding numbers on the Scarborough Castle headland with 1394 pairs this year. Further north, *c.*6350 pairs were counted between Saltburn and Skinningrove with *c.*5380 pairs at Cowbar. As usual, very large counts reported from the vicinity of the breeding colonies with, at Flamborough, peaks of 45,000 on 25th March; 75,260 on 2nd April and 21,000 on 7th May. Up to 2000 per hour were not infrequently reported passing Filey. Small numbers occasionally reported inland, invariably one to three birds being involved but on 26th March 65 [61 adults] flew into Anglers' CP to be seen leaving to the west, in small parties of one or two birds.

Gull-billed Tern *Sterna nilotica*
1995: An adult to the north at Flamborough on 27th May (DB: BR).

Lesser-crested Tern *Sterna bengalensis*
1994: One at BLPNR between 29th May and 3rd June (FB: JFC *et al*).
1995: One at South Gare on 14th/15th May (JBD *et al*).

Sandwich Tern *Sterna sandvicensis*
1994: The first of the year were reported from Grimston on 21st March; Filey on the 25th; Spurn on 26th and 29th then TLNR on the 31st. Peak spring counts were 140 at Flamborough on 8th May and 80 at Spurn on 2nd June. Small numbers, up to four, reported from some 12 inland locations. In autumn, peaks recorded were 1100 at Flamborough on 7th August when 772 passed south at Filey in 2-1/4 hours. The last reported were in October, from Grimston on the 10th; Spurn, 12th; Flamborough, 15th and Filey on the 16th.
1995: First of the year were singles on 19th March at Barmston and Filey. Spring passage light with an isolated peak of 169 at Flamborough on 17th June otherwise no count exceeded the 75, also at that location, on 29th April. In July numbers along the coast built up from mid-month with, at Spurn, 100 to 400 almost daily and maxima of 900 on 23rd then 500 on 15th August. Hornsea reported 944 on 10th August whilst Barmston had 2594 north on 4th August and 780 north the following day. At Flamborough peaks were 800 on 5th August with 750 on the 16th and 500 on 26th whilst 550 were present there on 2nd September. Filey reported 262 on the 2nd August with 247 on the 4th; 495 on the 8th then "hundreds" on the 20th with 263 on the 23rd. Small numbers occasionally away from the coast with five at Blacktoft Sands on 30th May. The last of the year were at Spurn on 31st October then, in November, at Flamborough on 4th; 12th and finally two on the 14th.

Roseate Tern *Sterna dougallii*
1994: An adult at Southfield Res. (CF) on 17th May was an unusual inland occurrence. Scarce along the coast with singles at Spurn on 31st August; Hornsea on 23rd August; Flamborough on 8th May, 25th June and 26th August; Filey on 6th/7th September. Two together at BLPNR on 19th June and Spurn the following day [same birds?]; Hornsea on 1st July, 24th August and 5th September [these last birds seen to head inland]; at Flamborough on 17th September and Filey on the 6th September.
1995: Considered to have been a poor year at both Filey and Flamborough; the former having two adults south on the 20th August whilst the latter reported singles on 10th June; 9th, 19th, 22nd, 31st July and 2nd September with two on 7th August. Singles were recorded from Bridlington Bay, at Barmston, on 6th, 7th and 9th June, 24th September but three on 31st July whilst, further south, at Spurn, two adults were seen over the Humber on 20th July, a juvenile on 10th August and one north on 1st September. Nearby, BLPNR reported singles on 17th July and 3rd August with two on both 20th July and 1st August. In VC62, singles were reported from South Gare on 28th May and 11th July with two on the 2nd September. During early July, four, possibly five, adults roosted in the Common Tern colony at the British Steel Ore Terminal at Redcar.

Common Tern *Sterna hirundo*

1994: Reported breeding inland at Farnham GP. [three pairs; all predated by Magpies]; Swillington Ings, [seven pairs, all young/eggs predated one night, by Fox?, six relaid rearing 11 young]; Broomhill Ings, [one pair, one young]; Potterie Carr, [one pair, two young]; Dale Pit Quarry, [one pair, three young] and Fairburn Ings, [no details]. The first of the year was a single at Thrybergh CP. on 13th April followed by inland passage with 77 at TLNR on 23rd April and seven at Ainderby Steeple then, on the 24th, 26 at Fairburn Ings and 31 at Farnham GP. Coastal passage only light. Peak counts along the coast in autumn being; 1820 at Flamborough on 26th August with 1900 there the following day whilst Hornsea had 1650 on 18th August and Spurn, 450 on the 4th September. 2600 unidentified "*Commic*" terns were at Spurn on the 28th August.

1995: Breeding reported from the British Steel Ore Terminal at Redcar with 173 nests, 475 eggs of which 420 hatched, the majority fledging. Inland, at Farnham GP., [two pairs, one successful with two young]; Swillington Ings, [six pairs, five successful, 13 young]; Worsbrough Res. [one pair, four young]; Broomhill Ings, [one pair, first brood lost, second with three young] and Pugneys' CP. [at least nine pairs but only five young]. The first of the year were reported on 23rd April from Spurn; Pugneys' CP.; Swillington Ings; Scaling Dam; TLNR and Flamborough. Spring passage very light at all locations. Return passage from late July with up to 42 at Flamborough and 141 at Barmston on 21st. In August, large counts at most coastal locations at the end of the month with 1900 at Flamborough on the 16th; 1500 on the 19th and 1000 on the 26th; at Barmston, 919 on the 20th, 1617 south on the 24th and 1195 on the 26th. 2100 off Hornsea on the 25th whilst 712 passed south at Grimston in 45 minutes on the 24th. Numbers decreased in early September with 296 at Flamborough on the 5th and 264 at Barmston on the 8th as the only counts of note. The last of the year were singles at Barmston on 11th October; South Gare on the 15th and Pugneys' CP on the 30th.

Arctic Tern *Sterna paradisaea*

1994: One at Filey on 28th March was the first of the year followed by one at Broomhill Ings on the 31st. Widespread inland passage noted on 23rd April [*cf.* Common Tern] with 79 north-west at Wheldrake Ings; ten at Stocksbridge and 45 at Fairburn Ings. Coastal passage was very light during both seasons with a peak at Flamborough of 245 on 17th July whilst numbers in August/September were very low. Latest were singles at Blackmoorfoot Res. on 2nd October; Flamborough on 5th October and an exceptionally late bird at Filey on 21st November.

1995: First of the year was reported from Flamborough on 7th April then Southfield Res. on the 11th and Barmston on the 12th. A good spring at Spurn but only small numbers reported elsewhere along the coast. The maximum at Spurn being 507 on 30th April on which date 702 flew east along the Humber at Sunk Island. Generally only small numbers were reported inland however 40 were at TLNR on 25th April with 37 flying north at Southfield Res. on the 27th. Autumn passage also was light with only Flamborough and Barmston reporting more than 30 birds in any one day. The former had 70 on 4th August with 140 on the 5th and 194 on the 8th whilst the latter reported 56 on 25th July and 41 on 5th August. Late birds were reported from Flamborough on 10th October; Filey on the 20th October and finally, Flamborough, on the 4th November.

Bridled Tern *Sterna anaethetus*

1994: One at Fairburn Ings on the 3rd June (JG) constitutes the third record for Yorkshire. An adult at Flamborough on the 14th September (PAL) was the second record for that location and the fourth for Yorkshire, however this record has not, as yet, been submitted to the ***BBRC***.

Little Tern *Sterna albifrons*

1994: Bred at BLPNR where 65 pairs reared 29 young although, once more, predation by Merlin occurred and, of nests outside the protective, electric fence, by Stoat, Fox and Hedgehog. The earliest of the year was reported from the Spurn/Easington area on 22nd April followed by birds at several locations the following day including one inland at Nosterfield. The maximum at Spurn being 42 in mid-May. The last of the year were three at Sunk Island on

11th September with singles at Fairburn Ings on 12th/13th September and at Filey on 2nd October.

1995: At the BLPNR colony 71 pairs [a record] were present by 11th June but the presence of an immature Merlin the following day probably caused consternation resulting in many clutches being chilled. Strong winds accompanied by high tides on the 15th/16th resulted in 15 nests being lost then, on the 19th, a [the?] Merlin reappeared to remain for the rest of the season with the result that only four young fledged. The colony in the north of the county had 25 clutches but 24 were lost to the high tides of the 15th/16th June with the 25th being predated by Fox. All relaid but only 11 chicks hatched and only three fledged. The first of the year was at Easington on 20th April with the last at Spurn on 27th August. Away from the breeding colonies the maxima along the coast were 31 at Barmston on 9th May and 52 at Spurn on the 21st. Inland, one or two were reported from some six locations in VC63 whilst in VC64, one at Swillington Ings on 14th May; two at Otley GP. on 15th June being seen at Staveley NR the same day whilst three were at the latter on 19th June.

Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybridus*

1995: An adult at Wheldrake Ings from 29th to 31st May (SCMi *et al*).

Black Tern *Chlidonias niger*

1994: Spring passage on 23rd April included four at Farnham GP; two at Nosterfield; four at Swillington Ings; two at the LDNNR with singles at five other locations. Eight were reported from Spurn on the 24th whilst 12 were at Nosterfield on 3rd May when 11 were reported from the LDNNR. Slightly more widespread in the autumn with peaks of seven at Southfield Res. on 23rd August when ten were at Wintersett Res. whilst nine were at Thrybergh CP on 15th September. The last of the year were singles at Blackburn Meadows from 5th to 8th October and at Boroughbridge on 23rd October.

1995: A very quiet year particularly in spring with only one to three at some nine locations. Little improvement in autumn with, again, one to six at a few locations. Large counts were reported from Flamborough with 15 on 15th August and 12 the following day; ten at Grimston on 8th August when 11 were at Scaling Dam and then ten at Nosterfield on 9th October; these together with one at Blacktoft Sands on the same day, were the last of the year.

White-winged Black Tern *Chlidonias leucopterus*

1994: A moulting adult was reported at Blacktoft Sands on 16th July (DP) being also reported in Lincolnshire at Barton-on-Humber. Another moulting adult was seen at Southfield Res. on 5th August (CF) whilst a juvenile was at North Cave from 21st to 24th October (GD: SM).

Guillemot *Uria aalge*

1994: No comments received from the RSPB Reserve at Bempton or any other breeding colony. Heavy movement past Flamborough with maxima of 30,500 on 16th April and 35,840 on the 8th May. One at Blacktoft Sands on 22nd May was the only record away from the coast.

1995: Again no details from the RSPB Reserve at Bempton or other breeding colonies. Large numbers, as usual, reported from the Flamborough area with peak counts of 23,000+ on 25th February; 43,000 on 4th March; 26,000+ on 12th March and 4th June with 48,000 on the 10th June. Few then until *c*.21,000 on 27th November and 23,500 on the 30th. Elsewhere most were merely reported as *"auk sp"* with up to 800 regularly at Spurn and Filey, whilst, at Flamborough, counts of birds not specifically identified were 30,000 on 11th and 68,000 on 25th June.

Razorbill *Alca torda*

1994: No comments received from any breeding colony. Maxima at Flamborough were 32,700 on 16th April and 31,780 on 8th May.

1995: No comments received from any breeding colony. High counts, as usual, at Flamborough with peaks of 25,000 on 4th March; *c*.15,500 on 12th March and 28th June. Smaller counts elsewhere along the coast.

Black Guillemot *Cepphus grylle*
1994: One in South Bay, Scarborough, on 22nd January whilst one, on the Humber, at Spurn, on 21st September was only the fifth record for the Observatory.
1995: A good year with singles at Jacksons' Bay, Scarborough, on 4th November and at Saltwick Nab and Cowbar Nab on the same day, [same bird?]. Singles at Flamborough on 11th and 13th November and at Filey on 22nd and 26th November; 4th, 13th, 16th/17th and 23rd/24th December.

Little Auk *Alle alle*
1994: "Worst year on record" [Flamborough]; "depressing year" [Filey]. One at the former on 17th October with two singles at the latter; on 20th February, oiled, and 25th February, dead. One at Sandsend, 9th January with one dead there on 26th February. One at Blacktoft Sands on 19th October and one picked up at Howden [no further details].
1995: An exceptional year. A heavy movement occurred in January with a record 10,947 at Flamborough on the 11th when 1655 passed Barmston; 2081 at Scarborough but only 45 at Filey and none at Spurn. The following day saw 9522 at Flamborough with 1021 at Filey and 837 at Long Nab. In late October numbers appeared along the coast with 112 at Flamborough on the 21st when 27 passed Spurn then on the 29th; 233 at Spurn with 383 at Flamborough then 200 and 1113 respectively on the 30th. The total passing Flamborough in November was 19,148 with 5363 on the 2nd when 1298 were reported at Spurn; 1794 at Barmston; 688 at Filey and 864 at Scarborough. On the 3rd; 630 at Spurn; 646 at Grimston; 2477 at Barmston; 6216 at Flamborough; 1943 at Filey and 1863 at Scarborough. On this same day, 316 passed west along the Humber, at Sunk Island, many of these birds arriving from the east [coast] at considerable height though only two were seen to return to the east that same day. 430 at Spurn on the 4th with 2827 at Flamborough and 346 north at Ness Point. Small numbers then until the 12th when 1183 passed Filey but few being reported elsewhere though on the 13th, 2253 were recorded at Flamborough and 2622 at Filey [location record]; 126 north at Barmston on the 16th; 127 at Spurn on the 18th and, at Flamborough; during this period, 472 on 17th; 823 on 18th and 228 on the 19th. Excepting 178 south at Filey on 9th December only small numbers were reported during this month. Away from the coast, eight at Whitton Sands/Trent Falls on 2nd November with seven on the Humber, off Hull, the same day. Four near TLNR also on the 2nd whilst records during this period of one or two birds were received from Scaling Dam; Malton; Kilnwick Percy; Broomhill Ings; Southfield Res.; Baildon; Blacktoft Sands; High Batts NR. and Nun Monkton.

Puffin *Fratercula arctica*
1994: No comments or details received concerning any breeding colonies. Maxima at Flamborough were 18,560 on 25th June and 24,180 on 16th July. One east at Sunk Island on 27th August.
1995: No comments or details from any breeding colony. Six passing Long Nab on 12th January and one at Flamborough on the 3rd were the only mid-winter records. Passage at Flamborough during the summer months not as heavy as in some years but peaks were 13,500 on 10th June; 16,000 on 11th July with 18,950 on 22nd and 18,200 on the 28th. 15,300 on the 6th August being the last large count with numbers decreasing rapidly from mid-month. Small counts elsewhere along the coast with 291 north at Filey in 30 minutes on 10th June being the maximum reported.

Feral Pigeon/Rock Dove *Columba livia*
1994: Few comments. Status at Flamborough unchanged with late autumn influx noted; maxima there 8000 on 26th and 2500 on 28th October. 2000 at Thrybergh CP on 12th December.
1995: Status would appear to be unchanged; no counts being undertaken at Flamborough. Up to 1100 at Thrybergh CP in the early part of the year with 1000 there at the years end.

Stock Dove *Columba oenas*
1994: Breeding status would appear to be unchanged. It was estimated that 60 pairs bred

along the LDNNR. Largest flocks reported were 250 at Broomhill Ings on 12th October increasing to 350 on the 19th then 450 on 5th November whilst 240 were at Carr Vale on 4th January.
1995: Status generally unchanged but possible decrease in parts of VC61 owing to decrease in suitable breeding habitat but an excellent breeding year at the LDNNR with an estimated 100 pairs. Also considered to be under-reported in some areas [only one pair reported from VC62]. The maxima recorded being 220 at Broomhill Ings on 21st October with 205 there on 4th November; 200 at Staveley NR on 5th November and 170+ at Southfield Res. on 5th December.

Wood Pigeon *Columba palumbus*
1994: Widespread and common in most areas. Record passage noted in autumn through the Redmires/Ox Stones/Rod Moor area [within four miles of each other] with a total of 65,000+. Peak days being 1st/2nd November with 15,825 south over Rod Moor in two hours on 1st whilst on the 2nd; 15,000 passed over Rod Moor; 8034 over Ox Stones and 7440 over Totley Moor. Allowing for duplication it is considered that a minimum of 23,000 birds were involved on the 2nd. Many areas reported flocks of 1000 to 6000 with up to 10,000 on the Yorks/Notts borders on 22nd January.
1995: Status apparently unchanged. Autumnal passage through the southwest totalled 52,800 at Redmires and 26,800 at Rod Moor; the peak day being the 29th October when 8360 were counted at Rod Moor; 4845 at Ox Stones and 3466 at Redmires. Elsewhere, many locations reported parties of 1000+ with peaks being 5500 near Tickhill on 6th February; 5000 at Wintersett Res. on 18th January and 4800 near Southfield Res. on 27th December.

Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto*
1994: Widespread; considered to be stabilising in the Sheffield area after previous expansion of range. Maxima reported; 160 at Leeming Bar Industrial Estate on 26th January and 87 at Broomhill Ings on 23rd October. Possibly under-reported.
1995: No change in status reported but considered to be under-reported in some areas of VCs 63 and 61 though an estimated 125 bred in the villages bordering the LDNNR. Highest counts recorded were up to 151 at Ardsley Res. in October; 108 at Old Denaby on 3rd December; 100 at Carlton on 7th December and up to 98 at Eccup Res. in January.

Turtle Dove *Streptopelia turtur*
1994: All comments received were of a continuing decline. The first of the year was reported on 24th April at the LDNNR then on the 25th at Southfield Res. and Blacktoft Sands. Maxima during spring passage were 11 at Flamborough on 31st May whilst up to 11 were at Spurn from 14th May to 4th June. Ten singing males were recorded at Wintersett Res. during the breeding season whilst 31 pairs were located, at 12 sites, in the Doncaster area but only six pairs at the LDNNR. Fewer were reported during the autumn though 13 were at Scalby Lodge on 18th September with the last, a single, at Pulfin Bog on 25th and two at Mickleby on the 29th.
1995: The only comment on the status of this species received from VC61 was from the LDNNR where a record 19 pairs bred. No definite breeding was recorded in VC62 whilst in VC63, stated as "no longer breeding in the west". About 15 pairs were reported from the Barnsley area with "a few" in the Sheffield and Rotherham region. A survey by the Doncaster and District Orn. Soc. [ten miles radius from Doncaster Town Hall] found 142 pairs; this, however, includes a small area in Notts. This total indicates a decrease of between 50 and 70% since the 1980s. In VC64, only one pair confirmed as breeding whilst in VC65 bred at Nosterfield and Scorton with up to 15 pairs reported on the MOD land around Catterick. The first of the year was at Sunk Island on 15th April followed by one at Flamborough on the 17th then at Thorpe Marsh on the 23rd. Spring passage generally light with maxima of 17 at Spurn on 29th May when 24 were also reported at Sunk Island. Few records during the autumn with the last being singles at Denaby Ings on 23rd September; at Thrybergh CP and Flamborough on the 24th then finally, at Scarborough on 23rd October.

Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus*

1994: First was on 20th April at Sharow [near Ripon] then on the following day near Rotherham; at Dacre; Carlton; Grimethorpe and Wheldrake. In VC64, scarce in some parts and not reported breeding at any lowland locations. Hepatic females reported from Blacktoft Sands on 7th May and Wheldrake on 14th May. The last reported were at Thrybergh CP on 12th September and at Filey on the 24th.

1995: One at Wheldrake on 2nd April was quite early [the next in VC61 being at Brandesburton on 18th-a more typical date] followed by one at Cragg Vale on the 9th; Lindley Wood Res. on 10th then Wintersett Res. and Thorpe Marsh on the 12th. By late month birds were widespread in VC63 and in other areas by early May. Eight at both Staveley NR and Wintersett Res. on 6th May. Last reported were at Filey and the LDNNR on 3rd September; Sunk Island on the 18th and the Harrogate Show Ground on the 19th. Hepatic female present at TLNR on 20th May. Comments on status varied; numbers on the moors to the west of Barnsley were considered to have been low but the reverse was the case on the Halifax moors. 123 singing males were located in the Doncaster area [includes part of Notts] whilst, in VC64, was said to be scarce or even absent in some areas. Numerous throughout the forestry estates of VC62. The only comment in VC61 came from Flamborough where the decline continues.

Barn Owl *Tyto alba*

1994: Continues to do well in Holderness particularly where nest boxes are provided. A record 21 pairs at the LDNNR. Excepting in the York area no confirmed breeding in VC62. Only seven breeding pairs reported in VC63 with none in either VC64 or 65.

1995: Recorded from all areas of Holderness and certainly appears to be holding its own. Also, in VC61, an estimated 26 to 30 pairs around the LDNNR. However still suffers as a casualty of road traffic with five killed during the year on a three mile stretch of the A165 near Barmston. Bred at three locations in VC62 and may have done so at a further four. In VC63, absent from the Bradford; Halifax and Huddersfield areas; very scarce around Rotherham. An increase noted in the Sheffield area though some records may refer to Derbyshire. It was considered that about 20 pairs bred in VC63, the majority in the Doncaster area. Continues to decrease in VC64 with only one breeding record received [near Leeds] whilst sightings away from that location were limited to just six sites. Not reported from VC65. One found dead at Spurn on 11th January had been ringed in Norfolk as a nestling the previous July.

An individual, seen briefly, at Flamborough on 31st December was proven, the following day, to be of the dark-breasted Continental race *T.a. guttata.*

Little Owl *Athene noctua*

1994: 11 pairs bred at the LDNNR [record number] with few other breeding reports from VC61. Thinly distributed in VC62; recorded at some 28 locations in VC63 with 20 to 25 pairs in the Barnsley area. Widely reported in VC64 with no apparent change in status.

1995: Apparently increasing and spreading along the Lower Derwent where a record 17 pairs bred on, or adjacent to, the LDNNR. Elsewhere, in VC61, very thinly distributed with numbers decreasing in the Seaton/Sigglesthorne area due to the removal of many large, old trees [for "safety" reasons]. Also very thinly distributed in VC62 with only some eight pairs reported. About 50 sites occupied in the Doncaster/Barnsley and Huddersfield areas, of VC63, where breeding or probable breeding occurred. Smaller numbers present in the Sheffield/Rotherham area and further north, around Halifax. In VC64, no apparent change in status or distribution being equally at home on the high ground as the more traditional lowland areas.

Tawny Owl *Strix aluco*

1994: Common and widespread in all suitable areas; scarcer on the higher ground. Status apparently unchanged. One ringed near Pocklington as a nestling on 27th June 1994 was found dead in a cooling fan of a crane hoist on an oil rig in the Forties Charlie Field on 14th December [425 km distance].

1995: Status and distribution seemingly unchanged with very few comments received.

Long-eared Owl *Asio otus*

1994: Status apparently unchanged with breeding records from 14 locations in VC63. Possibly under-reported as only one pair recorded breeding throughout the remainder of the county. Roosts at several locations with up to eight at Cowlam in November/December and usually four, but eight on 24th January and nine on 20th February, at Denaby Ings. Four at Welwick on 22nd and 26th January with five on 13th February. Generally a small autumnal influx with up to five at Flamborough and three at Filey though 18 at Spurn on 22nd October.

1995: Considered to still be under-reported in the breeding season particularly from the larger forested areas of VC62 and VC65. In VC61 a pair bred at the LDNNR [first occurrence] whilst one at Flamborough on 11th July was intriguing. Some eight to ten pairs were considered to have bred in VC63 though on the down side, the young were stolen from a nest near Barnsley. Not reported as breeding in VC64 whilst one pair was confirmed in VC65 and two in VC62 though birds were present at a further two locations in VC62. In VC61, roosting birds were only reported from TLNR with up to three birds during the early months and at Flamborough where up to eight were present during December. Roosts in VC63 only held three to five birds whilst the only roost reported from VC64, at Woodlesford [Leeds], held up to four birds in the early months.

Short-eared Owl *Asio flammeus*

1994: At least eight pairs were located during the breeding birds survey of the Dales NP with birds present at a further nine sites. Three pairs present in the Sheffield area [none successful], with two in the Barnsley area whilst birds were present at a further four locations in VC63. Probably attempted to breed at the LDNNR. Scarcer along the coast during the winter months than some 15 years ago with only one to three birds at some nine locations.

1995: A poor year reported from most areas. Once again a pair probably bred in the vicinity of the LDNNR. One pair bred in VC62, in rough grassland, near the cliffs at Staithes whilst, in VC63, probably no more than four pairs bred though a fifth may have done so. Only five high ground sites had birds present during the breeding season, in VC64, with none in the Leeds area. Reported as seemingly scarcer in VC65. As a wintering bird appears to be decreasing with only one or, occasionally, two birds at most locations; only along the Humber, at Sunk Island and Spurn were three birds noted. In VC65, the maturation of forestry plantations has seen the end of the prime wintering site at Feldom Ranges.

Nightjar *Caprimulgus europaeus*

1994: 33 "churring" males counted on Thorne Moors with a further 24 on Hatfield Moors. Two occupied sites in the Sheffield area with three birds at one and one at the other; one held territory near Bawtry whilst up to nine males were at a location to the southwest of Barnsley. No reports were forthcoming from the forested areas of the North York Moors and no records received of birds away from the breeding areas.

1995: In VC62, a survey of the Dalby Forest revealed 43 "churring" males whilst others [no numbers given] were reported from Wykeham and Cropton Forests with one seen at Beersone [near Hutton-le-Hole]. Again bred in Yearsley Forest and possibly in some of the adjacent woods. In VC61, two were seen and three heard on Skipwith Common. Present in good numbers on Hatfield Moors, VC63, though no counts were undertaken. In the Barnsley area, after the first on 5th May, some ten males were found at two locations whilst 27 males were located on Thorne Moors; the last being reported there on 10th August. Elsewhere, very scarce, with singles at Flamborough on 25th May [only the fifth record for that location] and at Spurn on 12th August [first there since 1983].

Addition to the 1993 Report: One at Saltmarshe Delph on 1st May.

Swift *Apus apus*

1994: The first of the year were reported on 24th April from Broomhill Ings and North Anston followed by birds at Bolton-on-Swale; Denaby and the LDNNR on the 25th. Peak counts reported during the spring period were 2000 at the LDNNR on 22nd May and 1200 at Woodlesford on 8th June [no counts received from Hornsea Mere]. Peaks counts during the

autumn/post breeding period were generally towards the low side though 9000 passed Spurn on 26th June. The last of the year were single birds at both Flamborough and Spurn on 25th October then a very late bird at Rotherham on 21st November.
1995: On 14th March a single bird was seen at both Flamborough and Cornelian Bay [Scarborough] being the earliest ever reported from Yorkshire [previous earliest being on 10th April 1987 at Bempton]. The next was on 21st April at Catcliffe Flash followed by birds at Blubberhouses on the 22nd; Morley SF on the 23rd then Elland GP on the 24th. Maxima reported during spring were 1350 at Broomhill Ings on 8th May then 1000+ at Knostrop SF on the 14th with 1000 at Edderthorpe on the 15th whilst post breeding gatherings/passage peaked with 4500 at Spurn on 30th June: 6000 there on 17th July and 3000 at Wilsic on 6th August. The last to be reported were on 17th October at both Flamborough and Spurn then one at Flamborough on the 27th with a very late bird at Staincross on the 18th November.

Alpine Swift *Apus melba*
1994: One at Filey on 27th April (HML: WML: HJW).
1995: One at Flamborough on 16th/17th April (BH *et al*) with one at Cornelian Bay [Scarborough] on 6th June (SW).

Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*
1994: Nine pairs bred at the LDNNR with one pair near TLNR otherwise under-reported in VC61. Four pairs reported from VC62 whilst, in VC63, scarce in the Doncaster area excepting at Potteric Carr; bred at five locations near Barnsley with nine occupied sites in the Sheffield area. Well distributed along the middle reaches of most rivers in VC64. Maxima reported were five at Pool Paper Mills in August and six at Elland GP during that same month.
1995: The general consensus is of a stable, quite healthy population. An estimated 11 pairs bred at the LDNNR though several more may have done so. Becoming increasingly common along the R. Hull valley but, in VC62, although widely reported [usually single birds], only one breeding record away from the York area. Some 15 pairs bred in the Barnsley area but only about 20 pairs were reported from the remainder of VC63 [again considered to be under-reported]. In VC64, still widespread on the lowland rivers with up to five birds at some locations.

Bee-eater *Merops apiaster*
1994: One flew south along the coast on 28th May being first recorded at Whitestone Point then at Robin Hood's Bay and finally at Flamborough. What may have been the same individual was seen flying south at Spurn the following day.
1995: [One heard calling over Old Fall and Head Farm, Flamborough, on 21st August but was not actually observed. (HS: PJW)].

Hoopoe *Upupa epops*
1994: One, found dead, at Ravenscar, on 23rd April. One at Dalehouse, [Staithes], on 26th April, with one at Wintersett Res. on 2nd May then, in the latter months, one at Filey from 1st to 7th September whilst one was at Flamborough on the 25th.
1995: Singles at Upper Heindley on 29th April: Leconfield on 1st May; Newton-le-Willows on the 16th [possibly present there since the 14th]. One at Filey on 24th and 25th September then one at Sunk Island on the 9th November.

Wryneck *Jynx torquilla*
1994: Only four spring records, all singles, at Spurn on 28th April; both Filey and near Ripon on 8th May then near Whitby on 23rd/24th May. During the autumn, singles at Spurn on 13th/14th and 31st August. Exact numbers at that location, in September, difficult to assess with five on the 1st; five on 2nd; four on 3rd; two on the 4th then one on 5th/6th; 9th and 10th; two on 11th and 15th with one on both 16th and 18th then two on the 21st; one from the 22nd to 25th and another on 26th/27th. Elsewhere, singles at Port Mulgrave on 1st; Flamborough on the 2nd; 13th and 25th; Filey on 4th and from the 18th to 22nd; Kilnsea on 17th; Ness Point on 28th then at BLPNR on 3rd October. Two were present at Flamborough on 21st September.

1995: Singles were present at South Gare from 28th to 30th April and at Flamborough on the 29th/30th. Two at Spurn on the 28th remaining to the 2nd and 3rd May respectively whilst two further individuals were reported there on the 30th. Singles at both Filey and Wykeham Lakes on the 4th May. In the autumn singles were recorded at Flamborough on 2nd/3rd September; Grimston on the 6th; Spurn on the 8th; South Gare on the 8th/9th then Spurn on the 17th; Filey from the 17th to 23rd; Kilnsea on the 18th; Flamborough on the 19th then, finally, Spurn on the 20th/21st. Inland: singles were present at TLNR on 4th September and Staveley NR on the 6th.

Green Woodpecker *Picus viridis*

1994: Bred at the LDNNR for the first time whilst three or four pairs were in the Burnby/Londesborough/Nunburnholme area of VC61. No proven breeding in VC64 but present at several locations. Would appear to be increasing in VC63. One on Barden Fell at 1600 feet a.s.l. on 11th April [well away from any woodland].

1995: Three societies in VC63 [Halifax; Rotherham and Sheffield] consider this species to be increasing. Elsewhere in the county, in the absence of any comments, status would appear to be unchanged albeit, under-reported. One at Flamborough on 4th and 22nd October was the first there for seven years whilst birds were seen at Pulfin Bog on ten occasions between late April and late July indicating the possibility of a slow spread into the east of VC61.

Great Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos major*

1994: No change in status noted. One, trapped at Spurn, on 17th October was of the nominate race *D.m. major* whilst individuals at Flamborough from 15th to 17th; 22nd to 23rd September and 12th November were, on plumage characteristics, considered to belong to this same, nominate, race.

1995: Widespread and flourishing in VC63 whilst apparently no change in status elsewhere. Three at Flamborough on 16th October and four there on 28th and 29th were no doubt migrants.

Lesser Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos minor*

1994: Probably bred at the LDNNR with, in this VC[61], singles reported from Skipwith Common on 3rd January and Pulfin Bog on 2nd June [the first record for that location]. Very few records from VC62; all being in the York area. Quite well distributed in VC63 being reported from 12 locations in the Doncaster area; 22 in the Sheffield area; four in the Huddersfield area and eight in the Barnsley area but confirmed breeding occurred at only two. Reported from 19 locations in VC64 though breeding was confirmed at only one. No reports from VC65.

1995: In VC61 a pair again probably bred at the LDNNR whilst a further two pairs were present in the nearby area; no other records coming from that VC. None reported from VC62. A "typical" year reported from VC63 but possibly under-reported; two pairs definitely bred successfully whilst a third deserted with birds being reported from a further eight locations on a fairly regular basis some of which may well have bred. In VC64, an increase in records from the Harrogate area but elsewhere no change in status noted remaining widespread in lowland woods of this VCbut "thin on the ground" otherwise. No confirmed breeding reported this year from VC64. One, seen with a wintering tit flock, in Colsterdale, VC65, being also reported from Hudswell Woods.

Short-toed Lark *Calandrella brachydactyla*

1994: One, at Sammys' Point, Kilnsea, from 14th to 17th May (DRM *et al*) One at Flamborough on 17th September showed characteristics of the southern race *C.b. brachydactyla*. (PAL: DIMW)

Wood Lark *Lullula arborea*

1994: An upsurge in records this year particularly during the latter months. One at Barrow [Barnsley] on 4th March being the only record from the early months then singles at Sammys'

Point Kilnsea, on 21st September; at Flamborough on 11th and 20th October; at Spurn on 23rd October; at Thorpe Marsh on 26th October [first record for the Doncaster area since 1966]; at Filey on 6th/7th November and at Blackburn Meadows from 25th December into 1995 [only the third record for the Sheffield area this century]. Two were present at Flamborough from 20th to 22nd November.

1995: The bird at Blackburn Meadows, VC63, remained from December 1994 until 15th January. In VC61, two were recorded at Filey on 2nd January with one still being present the following day; one at Spurn from the 16th to 21st March with a second bird present on the 18th/19th. What may have been the first bird was seen at different locations along the peninsula on the 22nd/23rd and 25th March. One at Flamborough on 10th November whilst, in VC62, one was reported from Upleatham on 6th January.

Skylark *Alauda arvensis*

1994: 1370 individuals were counted during the moorland breeding bird survey of the Dale NP [totally absent from heather moors]. The largest gatherings reported during the early months were 200 at Firsby on 9th January and 200 at Staveley NR on 16th February whilst, during the latter months, 268 were at Todwick Common on 25th October and 235 at Filey on 19th November. Only light passage noted with maximum of 900 at Spurn on 24th October whilst some 800 came in from the east there on 16th October. No comments were received concerning change of status.

1995: All comments received were of a general decline in numbers. A census of the Doncaster area [ten mile radius of Doncaster Town Hall] produced some 2115 pairs although exactly how many were in either Yorks or Notts is not clear. Two sample plots in the area had decreased by about 50% since 1981/82. The only other count undertaken during the breeding season was at the LDNNR, VC61, where some 300 pairs were located. The largest flocks reported during the early months were 400 at Filey on 3rd January with 400 at Carcroft on the 28th when 350 were at Thorne Ashfields and 1520 along the LDNNR. On the 29th, 676 flew west over Dunscroft in three hours. During the latter months, 900 were at Will Pits' Scrape [Thorne Moors] on 4th August; 350 at Edderthorpe on 27th November and up to 200 at Carlton in November with a similar number at Newton-on-Derwent on 30th December. At Spurn, only light autumnal passage noted with 464 on 18th; 203 on 21st; 370 on 27th October and 377 on 15th December. Inland, on 8th October, 377 flew south at Broomhill Ings; 217 south at Thrybergh CP and 300 west at the LDNNR. 450 flew west at the last location on 11th October.

Shore Lark *Eremophila alpestris*

1994: 13 regularly frequented Filey between 1st January and 26th March whilst up to ten were present in the Staithes area from 1st January to 22nd February with four there on 22nd April. During the latter months two were at Spurn on 16th/17th October with one remaining until the 23rd; one on 29th/30th plus singles flying over the peninsula on the 17th; 22nd and 25th. Single birds were at Filey on 24th October and 13th December whilst, at Flamborough; three were recorded between 3rd and 18th December. Seven at BLPNR on 23rd December. At Staithes, 24 were reported on 16th November with birds present until the end of the year with a maximum of 28 on 27th November.

1995: The 24 at Staithes, from 1994, remained until April with the last, 16, being reported on the 16th. Spurn had five on 18th January with one on the 19th and then two on 12th March. One at Flamborough on 2nd January whilst one was at Whitby on 27th. Three at Barmston on 27th March with the same number at Filey on 29th April. During the latter months; eight returned to Staithes on 18th November with 18 the following day, these remaining until late December, Filey had two on 2nd November when two arrived off the sea at Flamborough; three at Filey on 3rd November with three off the sea at Ness Point on the 4th. One at Spurn on 26th October then, in November, one on 4th; 5th and 12th with three on the 13th then up to five between the 4th and 9th December.

Sand Martin *Riparia riparia*

1994: The first to arrive were at Spurn on the 9th March [earliest ever reported there];

Swillington Ings on the 10th then at Denaby Ings on the 11th and both TLNR and Flamborough on the 12th. The last of the year were at the LDNNR on 4th October with six at Blackburn Meadows on the 5th and finally one at Spurn on the 23rd. Breeding status would appear to be unchanged. Maxima reported were 2000 at Blacktoft Sands on 24th April with 1300 at Bolton-on-Swale increasing to 2000 by the 4th May; 1300 at TLNR on the 5th. Passage at Spurn peaked during the early part of August with maximum of 2800 on the 5th.

1995: One at the RVCP on 11th March was the first to be reported followed on the 15th by birds at Pugneys' CP; TLNR and Jackson's Bay [Scarborough]. Numbers increased in early April to give 600 at Pugneys' CP on the 7th then 650 at Blacktoft Sands on the 10th followed by 130 at Hay-a-Park GP on the 18th and 1700 at Nosterfield on the 22nd. In May, 1300 were at TLNR on the 10th with 1650 on the 11th and 1050 on the 13th whilst 4000 were at Bolton-on-Swale on the 16th. A good breeding season was reported in VC64 though no specific counts were reported, but, in VC63, 1060 pairs were present at nine colonies in the Doncaster area whilst breeding occurred in this VCat Wintersett Res. [first ever occurrence]. In VC65, some 2000 nest holes were recorded in the Catterick area whilst 200 were at Morton-on-Swale. Numbers at colonies in the boulder clay coastal cliffs of VC61 at Cowden, Mappleton, Atwick, Skipsea and Barmston were unchanged whilst 100 pairs were present at North Cave. The maxima reported from roosts in the autumn were 5000 at Blacktoft Sands on 14th July with 7000 there on the 31st; 4100 at the LDNNR on 23rd August and *c*.3650 at TLNR on the 28th August [location record]. Last to be reported for the year were six at Blackburn Meadows on 3rd October; two at Potteric Carr on the 9th; one at Flamborough on the 12th with two there on the 26th and, finally, one at Spurn on the 28th.

Swallow *Hirundo rustica*

1994: The first to arrive were at Sprotbrough on 27th March followed by birds at Castle Howard and the LDNNR on the 28th then, on the 29th, at Eldwick; Farnham GP and Broomhill Ings. Last sightings were of single birds at Spurn and Preston [VC61] on the 14th November then again at Spurn on the 21st. Largest post breeding roost reported was 3000 at Wintersett Res. on 13th September however this, and all other roosts, were over-shadowed by up to 100,000 at Markington [near Ripon] during August and September. Passage at Spurn peaked in spring with 1500 on 4th May and in autumn with 5000 on 2nd September.

1995: The first were two at Bolton-on-Swale on 3rd March followed by one at Throapham on the 18th then at East Bierly on the 22nd; Blacktoft Sands on the 24th then at the LDNNR the following day. Spring maxima were low with 500 at Pugneys' CP on 17th May and 200 at both Swillington Ings on 8th and the LDNNR on the 17th. Passage along the coast peaked with 1000 at Spurn from 22nd to 24th May otherwise 180 at Flamborough was the maximum reported elsewhere. No comments were received concerning breeding status. Autumnal roosts had maxima of 10,000 at High Royd SF on 23rd August; 5000 at Markington from mid-August to 10th September; up to 5000 at the LDNNR during August; 3000 at Denton on 13th September and 2000 occasionally at Wintersett Res.; Broomhill Ings and Edderthorpe. Passage over the Pennines southwest of Sheffield peaked with 2725 at Strines Top on 13th September; 1000 at Holdworth on 11th; 15th and 16th September. Along the coast peaks at Spurn were 3000 on 9th September; 2000 on the 10th; 2500 on the 12th and 8000 on the 21st. Flamborough had 1000 on 12th August whilst 2300 were reported at Boulby on 12th September. The last of the year were reported from Filey on 31st October; Flamborough and Spurn on 8th November; Spurn on the 18th November then very late birds at Luddendonfoot on 2nd December and Brookfoot Lake at Brighouse on the 5th [these last two locations are within six miles of each other along the Rochdale Canal/Calder-Hebble Navigation and could, conceivably, refer to the same individual].

Cliff Swallow *Hirundo pyrrhonota*

1995: A juvenile at Kilnsea/Spurn on 22nd/23rd October being seen again at Spurn on the 28th. (LGD: DRM: PR *et al*). The third British record and the second for Yorkshire [first, South Gare 23 October 1988].

House Martin *Delichon urbica*
1994: One, at Roundhay Park [Leeds], on the 1st April was the first of the year followed by one at Burton Riggs GP on the 2nd then at Sprotbrough on the 6th with the latest being two at Flamborough and Spurn on 6th November; two at Hornsea on the 20th then one at Filey on the 27th. 56 nests were reported on Kilnsea Crag whilst, at Sharow, two pairs used a House Martin "cote" [based on the USA style swallow "cote"]. Only light passage along the coast but inland, 2500 passed south at the LDNNR on 18th September with 3000 south over Strines Top, in two hours, on the 20th.
1995: The first of the year was a single at Broomhill Ings on 25th March then one at Swillington Ings on the 31st. The next were not until 3rd April when birds were reported from Spurn; Denaby Ings and Pugneys' CP.. The maxima reported in spring were 1000 at the LDNNR on 29th April with 300 to 500 at Pugneys' CP. on 10th May; Thrybergh CP. on the 11th and Broomhill Ings on the 14th. Coastal passage, in spring, peaked at Spurn with between 350 and 700 from 25th to 29th May and, at Flamborough, with 300 on the 24th. During the autumn period, along the coast, Spurn recorded an isolated peak of 2000 on 21st September otherwise their maximum was 390 on 5th October; Flamborough recorded 600 on 12th August with 700 on 10th September whilst the peak at Filey was 400 on 3rd September. Inland, 1858 were counted passing over Strines Top on 13th September with 1000 over Redmires on the 11th and 1000 at Walkley [Sheffield] on 6th October. Maxima at autumnal roosts were 2000+ at Wheldrake Ings on 23rd August with 1000 there on the 12th September though no other location reported more than the 230 at TLNR on 28th August. More than usual October records were reported from VC65. The last of the year were reported from TLNR on 17th October; Filey and Cantley on the 20th; Flamborough on the 21st and Spurn on the 30th.

Richard's Pipit *Anthus novaeseelandiae*
1994: Singles were reported from Spurn on the 24th September; 10th, 12th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 22nd, 25th and 26th October then on the 4th November with two on the 6th. The exact number of individuals concerned not being certain with some duplication possible. At Flamborough, two were present on 25th September and 16th October with singles on 11th, 13th, 15th, 21st and 28th October. Filey recorded single birds on 9th and 21st October whilst, at Whitestone Point, one was seen from 22nd to 25th September. Grimston had one on 30th/31st October; Kilnsea, singles on 16th and 21st/22nd September and Stone Creek one on the 24th September. Two were recorded at Holmpton on 15th/16th. Inland, one at Thorne Moors between the 24th and 29th October (DB: JMc).
1995: One, at Spurn, from the 23rd to 25th April was only the second spring record for that location. In autumn, two flew to the west at South Landing, Flamborough, on 21st October otherwise all records concerned single birds and, again at Spurn, some duplication may have occurred. Birds were recorded as follows; Spurn on 19th and 26th September; 18th, 21st/22nd, 27th and 30th October; at Flamborough on the 10th October and at South Gare on the 12th November.
Addition to the 1992 Report: One at Sunk Island on 18th October (AA: DCo; GED).

Blyth's Pipit *Anthus godlewskii*
1994: One, at Flamborough, on 30th April (Miss SC: DB: PAL: BR: PJW). The first record for Yorkshire and the first spring record for Europe. Still under consideration by ***BBRC.***

Olive-backed Pipit *Anthus hodgsoni*
1994: One, at Flamborough, on 22nd and 23rd September (DB: PAL: VAL: JMc: PJW).

Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis*
1994: The first of the year was reported from Midhope Moor on 12th April with the next on the 17th, at Barden Moor. Spring passage was stated as being light. Breeding numbers still decreasing in VC64 and, in VC63, in the Doncaster and Sheffield areas, although some 27 pairs were reported on Thorne Moors. Autumn passage also light with birds [up to four] regularly at Spurn to the end of September with a late individual there on 21st October.

1995: One at Flamborough on the 5th April was the earliest of the year followed by one near Skipwith on the 7th then at the LDNNR on the 10th and Duncroft on the 11th. Spring passage reported as slight in all areas. Breeding numbers declined overall with "getting fewer each year" [York Orn. Report]; "moderate", [Huddersfield area]; "down", [Barnsley area]; "scarce compared with the 70s" [Doncaster] and "a general decrease over much of the VC[64] with few birds found on breeding territory". Autumn passage was, conversely, as good as for several years with the main movement being on the 8th and 9th September when, on the former date, 60 were recorded at Spurn; 18 at Boulby and six at Filey whilst the following day saw 54 at Spurn; 65 at Flamborough and 11 at Filey. One to four were reported at several other coastal locations during those days. A second, smaller, influx occurred in mid-month with 34 at Spurn on the 18th and 12 on the 19th plus up to four at other locations. The last of the year were singles at Spurn on 12th October then a very late bird at Flamborough on the 4th November.

Pechora Pipit *Anthus gustavi*
1994: A single bird at Filey on 9th October constituted the second record for Yorkshire. (JMB: PJD: CCT *et al*).

Meadow Pipit *Anthus pratensis*
1994: 3375 individuals were counted during the upland breeding bird survey of the Dales NP-usually well distributed but scarce in areas of limestone paving. 300 pairs were estimated as breeding at the LDNNR. The general consensus being that breeding status was unchanged. Only small flocks were reported during the early months with maxima of 200 at High Batts NR on 23rd March and 250 at Bolton-on-Swale on 20th March. Spring passage noted at Agden Beck with 800 passing northwest on 24th March and 600 on the 26th. In autumn, 630 flew southwest over Strines Top on 18th September with 1085 on the 30th. On the coast; 850 recorded at Flamborough on the 18th with 900 at Spurn that same day whilst 1200 were at the latter location on the 26th. 818 flew east at Sunk Island on the 21st September.
1995: Some 330 pairs were estimated to have bred at the LDNNR with 257 pairs located in the Doncaster area [ten mile radius of Doncaster Town Hall] 80% of which were east of the A1. With no further comments, or details on breeding received, it is assumed that status is unchanged. Flocks during the early months were small with 75 at Thorpe Marsh on 30th January as the largest reported. Spring passage was moderate with the maxima being *c*.600 per hour past Boulby on 30th March; 750 northwest over Agden on 2nd April with 500, again to the northwest, there on the 8th. 500 passed in the same direction over Loxley on the 19th March. In autumn, a total of 21,500 were counted moving southwest over the Rod Moor/Strines Top area with peaks of 2100 over both locations on the 28th September when 1800 were reported over Redmires; 2000 over Rod Moor on 7th October then 7000 south there on the 10th. Elsewhere inland 700 passed west over the LDNNR on 26th September with 800+, also west, there on the 10th October. Along the coast only average numbers were reported with the majority of the records coming from Spurn where 1000 to 1500 were reported daily between the 9th and 12th September; 1000 to 2100 between the 21st and 27th with a peak of 4000 on the 26th. Fewer in October with 1350 on the 8th as the peak. This coastal passage was reflected along the Humber with 438 west at Sunk Island on 16th September; 498 west there on the 22nd and 319 west on the 23rd.

Red-throated Pipit *Anthus cervinus*
1994: One at Whitestone Point on 22nd May (TJB: RSS) whilst one flew over Flamborough on 25th September (AMA). Both under consideration by ***BBRC***.
1995: Two at Flamborough on 8th September; one at Northcliffe Farm and one near Old Fall. (PAL). Not as yet submitted to the ***BBRC***.

Rock Pipit *Anthus petrosus*
1994: Breeding status unchanged at Flamborough and assumed to be so elsewhere. Up to 20 regularly along the coast at most locations; maximum 26 at Flamborough on the 11th December. One or two occasionally at some 12 inland locations.

Individuals attributed to the Scandinavian race *A.p. littoralis* regularly along the coast in spring, usually one to three but six at Filey on 5th March. Singles inland at Swillington Ings on 29th January and 7th December and at Redmires Res. on 6th November.

1995: Only Flamborough commented on breeding where it was considered to have been unchanged. The only count of note at that location was of 20 on 27th October whilst further south, at Spurn, peak passage occurred between the 18th and 31st October with maxima of 44 on the 18th and 41 on the 27th. One or two occasionally at some eight inland locations.

Individuals attributed to the Scandinavian race *A.p. littoralis* again seen regularly along the coast, invariably in spring, and usually concerning one to four birds though ten were at Flamborough on 25th February; 11 on 12th March and 12 on the 4th April.

Water Pipit *Anthus spinoletta*

1994: Continues to increase with singles occasionally at Blacktoft Sands; Southfield Res.; Firsby Res.; Marley SF.; Filey; the LDNNR and Swillington Ings. This last locations also had six on 4th April with three on the 17th. Up to two there regularly in November/December.

1995: The only regularly occurrences this year were from Swillington Ings with singles occasionally to the 3rd April, though no spring passage was noted at this location, and at Marley SF. where one remained from 1994 until the 26th March. Very few records from Swillington Ings during the latter months where a return to the former scarcity would appear to have occurred. Two at Marley SF. from 9th December to the years end. Singles at the RVCP on 26th February; at Blackburn Meadows on 29th March; at High Royd SF from 26th to 29th March; at Thrybergh CP on 18th/19th April and finally, occasionally at Blacktoft Sands between the 26th November and 25th December.

Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava*

1994: Singles at Knaresborough and Sunderlandwick on the 31st March, were the first of the year, with the next being at Staveley NR on 5th April. Maxima in spring were 60 to the south at Spurn on 4th May with 67 at Bolton-on-Swale the same day. Breeding status apparently unchanged; c80 pairs reported from the LDNNR though, in VC64, reported as generally being a poor year. Autumn maxima were 174 at Edderthorpe on 15th August; 80 to the west along the Humber at Sunk Island and 73 at Broomhill Ings on 31st July. The last of the year were singles at Broomhill Ings on 11th October and at Spurn on the 16th.

Individuals of the nominate race *M.f. flava* [Blue-headed Wagtail] were quite widespread, usually in small numbers, particularly in spring. Single individuals considered to of the race *M.f. Thunbergi* [Grey-headed Wagtail] were reported from Filey; Spurn and Flamborough with three at Sammy's Point, Kilnsea, on 24th May (NAB). One considered to belong to the race *M.f. cinereocapilla* [Ashy-headed Wagtail] was present at Whitestone Point on 26th May whilst individuals attributed to the race *M.f. iberiae* [Spanish Wagtail] were at Filey on 26th April; 19th/20th and 22nd May.

1995: The first of the year was an exceptionally early individual at Flamborough on 12th March then one at the LDNNR on the 25th with birds present at that location daily from the 1st April. Singles were at Thorpe Marsh and Wykeham Lakes on the 2nd then on the 3rd at Flamborough; Thrybergh CP on the 4th with two there on the 5th. Spring passage was apparently normal with peaks of 80+ at the LDNNR on 29th April; 25 at Flamborough on the 30th then 35 there on 4th May with 26 on the 7th. Spurn had up to 31 during early May; 22 flew south at Cromer Point on 2nd May whilst 24 were at TLNR on the 24th April. Stated as very scarce as a breeder in the west of VC63 though no indications, as yet, of any decline in the Doncaster area where some 316 pairs were located. In VC64 some 21 pairs located between Buckden and Kettlewell on 4th May would indicate an increase in that area. *c.*65 pairs at the LDNNR, VC61, would indicate a slight increase there. In autumn, the only count of note at TLNR was of 49 on 8th August. 60 were reported from Edderthorpe on 17th July and a similar count was recorded at Southfield Res. on 5th August. 83 flew south at the LDNNR on 21st August. An estimated 285 roosted at Blacktoft Sands on 26th August whilst some 160+ roosed at the LDNNR on 11th September. The last of the year were singles at Spurn on 18th October; Wintersett Res. on the 21st; Tynham Hall on the 25th then at Wilsic on the 3rd November.

Individuals of the nominate race *M.f. flava* [Blue-headed Wagtail] were reported from many locations, predominately in spring and invariably single birds but six were at Flamborough on 3rd May. A pair of this race bred successfully at Otley GP. A female, at Thornton, was paired with a male of the British race *M.f. flavissima*. Individuals, by characteristics, considered to be of the race *M.f. thunbergi* [Grey-headed Wagtail] were reported from Flamborough on 4th and 7th May and 19th September and from Coatham Marsh on the 25th May. A female, considered as showing the characteristics of the race *M.f. iberiae* [Spanish Wagtail] was a Filey Dams on the 22nd May whilst a male with the characteristics of *M.f. beema* [Sykes's Wagtail] was at TLNR on the 7th May.

Citrine Wagtail *Motacilla citreola*

1995: A first year male was located at Filey Dams NR during the evening of the 18th June (PMS *et al*) and was present for most of the following day. The first record for Yorkshire.

Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*

1994: Remains a scarce breeder in VC61 however indications are of an increase with two pairs on the Pocklington Canal. Believed to be at maximum density in some areas of VC64. Maxima on the coast; nine at Spurn on 22nd September and six at Filey on the 9th October. Inland; 15 were at Pool Paper Mills on 30th July.

1995: Two pairs again bred along the Pocklington Canal with a further pair at nearby Bielby whilst one may have bred near Wheldrake Ings, thus the slow increase in this area may be continuing. No reports from other areas of VC61 where breeding has occurred in the past. One pair bred in York City Centre whilst the only breeding records in VC62 were from Brandsby; Farndale; Kirbymoorside; Staithes and Wykeham thus indicating this species is under-reported here. In VC63, breeding numbers in the Sheffield area were significantly up on 1994 whereas breeding numbers were considered to be stable throughout the remainder of that VC. No change of status noted from VC64. Maxima reported were ten at both Knaresborough SF on 27th March and Pool Paper Mills on 6th July; 11 at Blackburn Meadows on 13th November; 12 at Marley SF on 11th August and 14 at Worsbrough on 24th August. Up to 15 were present at the LDNNR during September and up to 19 reported in November. No more than eight [8th September at Spurn] were reported from any coastal location.

Pied Wagtail *Motacilla alba*

1994: Status apparently unchanged. Roosts outwith the breeding season of 200+ reported from Grimethorpe; Wheldrake; Huddersfield and Keighley.

Individuals of the nominate race *M.a. alba* [White Wagtail] were quite widespread, in small numbers, however 35 were reported at Bolton-on-Swale on 28th April.

1995: A dramatic increase in breeding pairs along the LDNNR with 57 holding territory otherwise status would appear, in light of few comments received, to be unchanged. Roosts of 100 to 200 were reported from Thorpe Marsh; Chelker Res.; Spofforth SF.; Pontefract Park; Broomhill Ings; Keighley Town Centre; Huddersfield Civic Centre; Halifax Town Centre and Low Barrugh SF., on occasions. Larger roosts were reported at the LDNNR with 270 on 13th November; 400 at Harrogate District Hospital between January and late March and again in December. In Doncaster, 450 roosted at the Dome Centre in late November and 400 to 500 at the Trafford Way Roundabout during the periods January to March and November/December. Southwesterly passage was noted near Sheffield with a total of 1137 over Rod Moor in autumn; peak counts being 167 on 30th September and 142 on 10th October whilst nearby Redmires reported 108 on 8th October. Coastal passage light.

Birds attributed to the nominate race *M.a. alba* [White Wagtail] were reported, albeit in small numbers, from many locations in spring.

Waxwing *Bombycilla garrulus*

1994: One at Meanwood [Leeds] on 15th January was the only record.

1995: Three were in Middlesbrough Town Centre on 1st January with one present the following day whilst two were at Thornaby on the 13th. During the latter months individuals were

reported from eight locations in VC63 following the first, on 18th November, over Strines Top. Records were invariably of single birds but two were in the Little Don valley on 23rd December with three at Wilsic on the 25th. In VC62, one at Scalby on 6th and 29th December: up to five at Robin Hood's Bay from the 24th December into 1996 whilst *c.*100 at Snainton on the 28th were a fore-taste of things to come. The only record from VC61 was of one at Wheldrake on 27th December.

Dipper *Cinclus cinclus*
1994: Status apparently unchanged. One at Roche Abbey on 19th May was only the third record for the Doncaster area.
1995: Numbers possibly lower in the Huddersfield and Halifax areas than some five years ago though in the Sheffield area a slight increase in reports of successful breeding but, in some instances, only one young fledged. 12 pairs located along a nine mile stretch of the R. Don to the west and south of Barnsley. In VC64, remains common along the higher reaches of rivers, but less so on the lower reaches of those same rivers. On 3rd May, five breeding pairs were located in Strid Woods indicating a healthy population there. Bred in VC62 at Dalby; Wrench Green and Saltburn with birds being present at several other locations though, in Farndale, no evidence of breeding noted [four pairs present here in 1994]. No comments received from either VCs 61 or 65.

Wren *Troglodytes troglodytes*
1994: Considerable increase on Thorne Moors but possibly decreased at TLNR. Evidence of coastal passage with 57 at Filey on 21st October. 51 at Broomhill Ings on 12th October was notable.
1995: Comments varied but all pointed to an excellent year. TLNR reported possibly the highest breeding numbers for many years. Good counts reported from Thrybergh Banks with 43 singing males on 6th May and Broomhill Ings with 52 noted on 30th September. Autumn passage at Flamborough considered to be lower than in recent years but conversely, at Spurn, on 10th October, birds were stated to be "all over the place"; 56 were ringed that day thus it may be assumed several hundred were, in fact, present.

Dunnock *Prunella modularis*
1994: Status unchanged. Indications of migrants were; 40 at Flamborough on 11th October and 60 at Filey on the 21st.
1995: Again no comments received concerning any change in status. Common and widespread in all suitable areas. As with Wren, an influx noted at Spurn on 10th November whilst, at Flamborough, the only count of migrants reported was 40 on 4th November whilst the peak at Filey was 35 on 18th September.

Robin *Erithacus rubecula*
1994: Breeding status apparently unchanged. Small autumnal influx noted at both coastal and inland locations.
1995: Good numbers reported from all areas of VC63 whilst, in VC64, one of the most common resident species; status and distribution unchanged. No comments received from other VCs. Numbers along the coast were low with only a small influx noted, maximum reported being 100 at Spurn on 18th Septermber.

Thrush Nightingale *Luscinia luscinia*
1995: One at Spurn on 18th May was the sixth record for the Observatory. (PJA: NAB: JC *et al*).

Nightingale *Luscinia megarhynchos*
1994: Reported on Thorne Moors between 11th April and 18th June with eight singing males [down from 11 in 1993]. Singles reported singing at Wilthorpe [Barnsley] between 5th and 7th May and at Brayton Barff from 30th April to 9th May. [An individual singing briefly at Spurn

on 2nd June could not be specifically identified].
1995: Four males held territory on Thorne Moors with the first being recorded on 23rd April and the last on 30th May. Singles reported singing at Spurn on both 23rd and 24th April. One sang in a small suburban garden at Ingleby Barwick [near Middlesbrough] on both 26th April and 11th May and, finally, one singing in the car park at Wheldrake Ings on 20th and 21st May.

Bluethroat *Luscinia svecica*
1994: Good spring at Spurn with singles most days from 14th to 27th May but with three on the 15th and two on the 23rd and 24th; up to 11 individuals were considered to have been involved. Singles were reported on four days during May at Filey plus one on 12th June; on five days at Flamborough with two there on 24th and 25th May; at Ness Point on 21st but three there on the 22nd. One at Long Nab on the 22nd with two at Whitby on the 23rd. The only record during the autumn was of a single bird at Spurn on 16th/17th October. The only inland record was of a male of the race *L.s. cyanecula* [White-spotted Bluethroat] in Harrogate from 27th to 29th March.
1995: A return to a "more normal" springs with, in May, males at Spurn on 13th; 18th and 23rd; at Filey on the 23rd and South Gare on the 24th/25th. A female was at Spurn on the 27th.

Black Redstart *Phoenicurus ochruros*
1994: Bred at Flamborough where a female was seen with two recently fledged juveniles on 31st July. Two pairs were present in Sheffield City Centre but breeding was not confirmed. A pair frequented the Tadcaster breweries between 22nd April and early June but, again, no proof of breeding was forthcoming. One to six were occasionally reported at Spurn; Filey; Flamborough and Whitby, mainly during the autumn period.
1995: Four sites were occupied in Sheffield but only one of those definitely produced young. Single birds wintered at Saltwick where a female was present from 12th January to 23rd March and at Whitby Golf Course where a male remained from 4th January to 5th February. A male was also reported from Saltwick on 28th January. In spring, singles were occasionally recorded at Flamborough; Saltburn; Boulby; Long Nab; Whitestone Point; Owstwick; Atwick; Burbage Rocks; Filey; Spurn; Ness Point and Dovestones. Three were at Ness Point on 1st April with two the following day whilst two were at Flamborough on 27th May with three at Spurn on 2nd April and up to two there between 13th and 30th April plus two on the 23rd May. In autumn, birds were recorded at Warley Moor Res.; Burbage Moor; Wath Ings; Eccup Res. and most well watched coastal locations. Invariably single birds were involved but two were at Whitestone Point on 14th October; two at Flamborough on 29th October with three on the 31st. At Spurn, three on 11th/12th October; two on the 14th then four on the 15th. Singles, in December, occasionally at Knaresborough; Flamborough and Filey.

Redstart *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*
1994: The first of the year was reported from Scawthorpe on 7th April followed by one at Norwood Edge on the 10th and Agden on the 16th. Spring passage along the coast was reported as light. No apparent change in breeding status. Autumnal passage also light with maxima of 40 at Spurn on 21st September when 30 were at Flamborough; 14 were at Whitby on the 22nd. The last birds reported were singles at Grimston on 22nd October and Flamborough on the 5th and 12th November.
1995: Single birds at both Potteric Carr and Colsterdale, on the 8th April, were the first of the year with one at both Haverah Park and Whitely Common the following day and, on the 11th, at the RVCP. The first bird reported along the coast being at Spurn on the 15th when one was also at Seamer Road Mere [Scarborough]. Spring passage along the coast was light with maxima of five at both Filey and Flamborough. Stated to have had a good breeding season along the wooded cloughs of the South Pennines of VC63 whilst also apparently did well in VC64 though only reported from the higher ground. One of the best autumnal passages for many years with an influx in early September when, on the 8th, 85 were at Flamborough; 16 at Spurn; 50 at Filey and up to 150 in the Staithes area. 43 were at Spurn on the 9th; 55 at Flamborough and 40 at Filey. Another influx occurred on the 17th/18th. Flamborough had 95

on the 17th then, the following day, about 60 were in the Staithes area; 22 at Filey; 155 at Flamborough and 450 at Spurn. On the 19th, 250 at Spurn; 260+ at Flamborough and 32 at Filey thereafter decreasing to 150 at Spurn on the 20th when 70 were at Flamborough then 50 at Spurn from the 21st to 23rd. Only small numbers were reported from the coast thereafter with the last being at Filey on 10th October; Spurn on the 11th and 12th then one at Filey on the 14th. The last to be reported inland was on the 7th at Skelding Moor.

Whinchat *Saxicola rubetra*

1994: Considered to be decreasing as a breeding species in the Barnsley and Sheffield areas. 43 pairs were located by the breeding bird survey of the Dales NP. First of the year were at Spurn and Walshaw Dene on 23rd April followed by birds at Flamborough; Blackburn Meadows and Malham Tarn on the 24th. Spring passage quite light with the maximum reported being 20 at Flamborough on the 30th April whilst in autumn, 80 were at Spurn on 21st September when 25 were also at Flamborough. The last of the year being one at Filey on 12th October with two at Flamborough on the 16th.

1995: Numbers in the less developed areas of the South Pennine approaches, VC63, appear to be fairly stable; populations to the east in that VC, however, continue to decline. A census conducted by the Doncaster & District Orn. Club revealed only seven pairs; two of these pairs being in areas that some ten years ago held 39 pairs. This decrease is thought to be partly due to the "tidying up" of scrub areas. No comments on status received from VC64 but all breeding occurred on the upland areas whilst, in VC65, the strongholds were centred on Colsterdale; the Grinton area and the MOD land to the west of Richmond. Few breeding records from VC62 though several pairs were located in Farndale with six in the Fen Bog area plus confirmed breeding occurring on Strensall Common. Not reported as breeding in VC61. A very early bird was reported at Whetstone Gate on 1st April followed by a pair on Burley Moor on the 11th then two at Ughill on the 15th. Spring passage was light along the coast with maximum at Spurn of five on the 18th May whilst inland, seven were at Scaling Dam on 11th May and 14 on Burley Moor on the 23rd. A good autumn, along the coast, with 16 at Spurn on 19th August then 15 on both 20th and 22nd. Two peaks reported in September, on the 8th, when 21 were at Filey; 30 at Staithes and 55 at Flamborough whilst on the following day, 60 were at Flamborough and 46 at Spurn. On the 17th, 45 were recorded from Spurn with 50 on the 18th and 35 on the 19th though this influx was not evident further north. The last of the year were singles at Flamborough on the 8th October and Spurn on the 9th when two were at Filey.

Stonechat *Saxicola torquata*

1994: Indications are of a slight increase in several inland areas. One to three reported at many locations with four at Grimston on 22nd October; five at Spurn on the 1st and 13th October with six on the 15th.

1995: A good year with birds reported during the early months from some 37 locations, invariably single birds, but two were occasionally present at Flamborough; Lockwood Beck Res. and Spurn. Evidence of breeding was reported from at least nine locations in VC63 being confirmed at five; most reports of both breeding and wintering birds coming from the South Pennine uplands and adjacent areas. In VC64, breeding occurred on Ilkley Moor [double brooded]. No breeding reported from the other VCs. Slightly more widespread during the latter months with, again, invariably single birds involved but two at some five locations; four at Spurn on 11th and 15th October; four at Robin Hood's Bay on 28th December and six at Deer Hill on the 10th October and at Blacktoft Sands on the 31st.

An individual of the Continental race *S.t. rubicola* was present at Spurn between the 13th and 17th April.

Individuals of one of the eastern races *S.t. maura/stejnegeri* ["Siberian Stonechat"] were recorded at Filey between 30th April to 4th May (DBy *et al*) and at Flamborough on 14th April (DB). [This last bird was not accepted by the ***BBRC***].

Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe*

1994: The earliest of the year were at Denaby Ings and Flamborough on the 12th March then

Gorple and Bank Island on the 13th. Maxima during spring passage occurred on 30th April with 60 at Flamborough; 45 at Spurn and 48+ at Filey. Breeding status apparently unchanged with 152 pairs located on the breeding bird survey of the Dales NP.. Autumnal passage light with the last reported being at Wath between 23rd and 28th October then two at Staithes on 7th November.

Small numbers of birds attributed to the Greenland race *O.o. leucorhoa* were reported from several locations in May.

1995: The first of the year was a very early bird at Wheldrake Ings on 26th February [the earliest ever being at Malham on 25th February 1968] with the next being at Spurn on 11th March then two at Boulby and one on Blubberhouses Moor on the 12th. Peak spring passage numbers along the coast were 88 at South Gare on 5th April; 70 at Boulby on the 6th when 36 were at Filey; 79 reported at Flamborough on the 29th with 29 at Spurn the following day. A good breeding season was reported from the Malham area, VC64, whilst comments from VC63 differed with "average numbers" in the Halifax area and "numbers down" in the Sheffield area. Peak counts during the autumn were 120 at Spurn on 18th September but down to 40 the following day when 56 were counted between Kilnsea and Easington [Humber shore]; on this latter day 65 were reported from Flamborough. The last of the year were at Ingbirchworth on the 16th October then Jackson's Bay [Scarborough] and Colsterdale on the 18th.

Individuals attributed to the Greenland race *O.o. leucorhoa* were reported, not infrequently, in spring, from Flamborough, with maxima of six on 6th/7th May and five on the 22nd. Two were there on 22nd August.

Ring Ouzel *Turdus torquatus*

1994: One on Barden Moor on 20th March was the first of the year followed by one at Agill on the 23rd. Spring passage reported as light. Breeding status apparently unchanged; 32 pairs were located by the breeding bird survey of the Dales NP of which ten were on Barden Moor. Autumn passage peaked on 25th September with ten at Flamborough and 18 at Spurn. The last of the year were at Spurn on 11th November then Filey and Flamborough on the 13th with one at the latter on 14th December. [This is the latest record this century-later records concern one at Holmfirth on 25th December 1855 and one at Leeds in "December" 1881].

1995: The first returning bird was reported from Colsterdale, VC65, on 19th March with birds being reported from VC64 at Barden Moor; Burley Moor and Ilkley Moor before the end of that month. One at Flamborough on 25th March was the earliest ever for that location whilst the first in VC62 was at Whitby on 29th March on which date two were at Withens Clough, VC63. Arrivals at most locations in VC63 were regarded as being late this year. Some 27 pairs were located in VC63 possibly indicating a slight resurgence of the species in that area after a decline during the past 20 years whilst, in VC64, a decline was noted in the Harrogate area with only one bird noted during three days of observations in Upper Wharfedale-a drastic decline from 20 years ago. All coastal locations reported a poor year with the maxima being five at Filey on 23rd April and five at Spurn on 1st November. The last of the year were at Redmires Res. on 30th October; Spurn and Flamborough on 12th November however, exceptionally late individuals were recorded at Ewden on 10th December and the Upper Little Don on the 23rd [latest this century-see 1994].

Blackbird *Turdus merula*

1994: Status apparently unchanged. As usual, an influx noted in autumn but not, this year, of any magnitude.

1995: Status would appear to be unchanged with several areas reporting a good breeding season. An influx noted along the coast in late October/early November with maxima reported of; at Filey, 85 on 30th October and 150 on the 31st; at Flamborough, 500 on 1st November then 250 on the 2nd and 200 on the 4th whilst, at Spurn, 1200 were present on 1st November with 2000 the following day. A smaller influx occurred on the 10th November when 150 were at Flamborough and 320 at Spurn. The only inland gathering of note was of 300 at Knaresborough during December.

Black-throated Thrush *Turdus ruficollis*
1995: A single bird of the race *T.r. atrogularis* was present for a short time near Redmires Res. on the 13th November (RDH) and constitutes the fourth record for Yorskhire.

Fieldfare *Turdus pilaris*
1994: Breeding was proven at a location near Richmond where adults were observed feeding recently fledged young. Exceptional numbers were present along the lower Derwent with up to 15,000 in January and 10,000 in February. Elsewhere numbers during the early months of the year were generally small. Several locations reported birds to mid-May then one at Spurn from the 21st to 30th June; one at Beaver Dyke Res. on 17th June remained in the area until 1st August whilst one was recorded at TLNR on 11th June and 6th July. The first of the autumn was a single at Malham Tarn on 12th August with 11 at Spurn on the 23rd. An influx was noted along the coast on 21st/22nd October but the only major passage occurred in the southwest on the 23rd with 13,200 over Holdworth then, on the 24th, 9200 over Rod Moor; 6510 over Redmires Res. and 4000+ over Penistone. 5000+ flew west at Timble on 6th November.
1995: An unusual record concerned one seen, for several minutes at 0530 on 21st June, collecting and carrying food near Hessle Haven. Only small gatherings during the early months with 1200 at the LDNNR, in January, being the only record involving more than 400. Slightly larger gatherings were recorded in spring with 600 in Ripon Parks on 25th April as maximum but several of 400-500 were also reported. Individuals were reported at several locations into May whilst, in June, [excepting the Hessle bird] at Spurn on five days to the 18th; at Filey on the 6th and Flamborough on the 3rd. One was at Spurn on the 20th July. The first of the autumn were nine at Castle Howard on 31st August then one at Spurn on the 6th September with small numbers reported from many locations thereafter. However, with the exception of 2580 moving to the west over Ovenden Moor on 21st October and 1200 to the west at Sunk Island on 11th November, very few were reported until December. During that last month peak counts reported were; 2000+ at the LDNNR on the 13th then 3500 on the 24th with 4700 on the 27th and 1500 on the 30th. In VC63, 1000 were at Fishlake on the 27th and a similar count at Wilthorpe on the 30th whilst 6150 were in the Idle valley [Notts/Yorks boundary] on the 26th. In VC64 2000+ were at Timble on 26th/27th whilst during the last week of the year; 2000+ were near Ripon; 1000+ at Lindley Wood; 1500 at High Batts NR and 1000 at Ox Close; Staveley NR and near Roundhill Res. Along the coast, the only large flocks were 1200 at Whitby on the 27th and 1500 at Hornsea on the 29th.

Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*
1994: Whilst numbers are still down or declining in most areas VC65 reported some recovery as did parts of VC64. Little indication of an autumnal influx though 150 were present at Flamborough on 21st October.
1995: Comments on status varied with all societies in VC63 reporting either low numbers or definite indications of a decline; three birds were ringed at Wintersett Res. against 39 in 1987. Should there be a "stronghold" still in VC63 it is in the coniferous plantations in the deep valleys east of the South Pennines. VC64 recorded no obvious change in status or distribution whilst in VC65 some recovery in numbers was noted. No comments were received from either VC62 or VC61. Indications of a light spring passage came from Spurn and Flamborough where peaks were 16 on 29th April and 20 on the 25th respectively. Only small falls along the coast in autumn with 50 at Spurn on 18th September and 60 on the 1st November whilst Flamborough had 24 on 18th September but 150 on 1st November. Inland, 25 were on Barlow Common on 26th September.

Redwing *Turdus iliacus*
1994: Excepting a party of up to 5000 which frequented the LDNNR during January and up to 4000 there in February, no particularly large gatherings were reported during the early months. Late birds were at Bramhope on 1st June; Flamborough on the 5th and Filey on the 1st and 20th. The first returning birds were reported on the 13th September from Harewood Park [Leeds] then on the 15th at Spurn and Flamborough. Only a modest coastal influx noted but,

in the southwest, 2865 passed southwest over Strines Top on 23rd October with smaller numbers the following day.
1995: 1000 at the LDNNR on 28th January was the only flock reported larger than the 350 at Thrintoft on 18th March with most locations only reporting between 60 and 100 birds. The last of the spring were reported in May from TLNR, on the 5th, and both Spurn and Flamborough where birds were present until the 14th. One at Flamborough on 8th September was the first returning bird followed by 12 at Spurn on the 18th then seven at Quarry Moor on the 27th and one at Staveley NR on the 30th. The only autumnal influx noted along the coast occurred on 29th October with 650 at Flamborough then 4500 there on the 1st November when 5000 were at Spurn. Inland, heavy passage occurred to the west of Sheffield during late October/early November with a total of 8050 southwest over Redmires and Ox Stones on the 21st; 5690 northwest over Ox Stones and 3445 over Rod Moor on the 29th with 1565 northwest over Rod Moor on 1st November. During these latter months most flocks were small being in the region of 100 to 500 though 1300 were at the LDNNR on the 13th December with 2000+ between the 24th and 27th whilst 1000 were at Knaresborough on the 24th.

Mistle Thrush *Turdus viscivorus*
1994: Status apparently unchanged. Maxima reported being 90+ at Strines on 13th August and 55 at Wilsthorpe on the 5th.
1995: A poor year at Malham Tarn where breeding did not occur and, elsewhere in VC64, fewer post breeding flocks of note were reported with many consisting of less than 15 birds. In VC63, flocks were quite modest but no reason to suspect any decline. In this VCmaxima, post breeding, were 46 at Thorpe Marsh on 7th July and 46 at Blackburn Meadows on 11th November. 70 were at Wykeham Lakes, VC62, on 27th August whilst in VC61, 47 were at the LDNNR on the 15th July. 60 flew northwest over Poppleton on 22nd March.

Lanceolated Warbler *Locustella lanceolata*
1994: One at Filey on 10th October (DA: PJD: D&JS). The first record for Yorkshire.

Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella naevia*
1994: One at Went Ings on 20th April was the first of the year followed by birds at Blacktoft Sands and Carlton on the 22nd. Fewer records in VC64 and at Flamborough but "encouraging" in the Doncaster area and a slight increase in the Sheffield area. Bred at ten locations with one to four birds at each and probably bred at a further 12. Late birds were reported at Spurn on 21st September and at Filey on the 24th.
1995: One at Horbury Wyke, VC63, on the 19th April then one at Spurn on the 21st followed by one at Flamborough on the 22nd; Broomhill Ings and Thorpe Marsh on the 23rd and Blacktoft Sands on the 24th. Two birds were reported reeling at TLNR in May then again in July with a further two birds during this latter period. An estimated six pairs bred at the LDNNR [three at Wheldrake where one may have been double brooded] and may have bred at Pulfin Bog. In VC62; birds reeled at 12 coastal locations and four inland though possibly many of the coastal records involved migrants. 11 pairs bred in the Barnsley area, VC63, with two in the Doncaster area; five at Blacktoft Sands; three at Marley SF whilst probable breeding occurred at a further two locations. Breeding probably occurred at three sites in VC64 whilst in VC65, the only record was of a reeling bird at Croft on 15th May. The last of the year were at Moscar [Sheffield] on 3rd September and, finally, at Flamborough on the 18th.

Sedge Warbler *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*
1994: Stated to have increased at the main locations in the Sheffield area whilst considered as stable in all other areas of the county. Very high numbers were reported from the LDNNR where an estimated 1000 singing males were present. The first of the year was reported from Wheldrake Ings on 20th April with one at Blacktoft Sands on the 22nd whilst the last of the year were at Staveley NR on the 1st October and at Blacktoft Sands on the 15th.
1995: Two at the LDNNR on the 8th April were the first reported followed by birds at Blacktoft Sands on the 9th. Three were present at the LDNNR on the 11th with one at Pulfin

Bog on the 14th when five were noted at TLNR. The first on the coast was not reported until the 28th [Spurn]. No comments were received concerning status being widespread in all suitable areas and, in the east in particular, well established in rape crops. The first full breeding survey of the LDNNR revealed 1360 singing males of which 420 were at Wheldrake Ings and a further 490 along the canal corridor. 43 singing males counted at Pulfin Bog in early May; 32 pairs located at Flamborough whilst, at TLNR, *c.*54 pairs were counted on 4th June being little change from the 53-57 pairs located there in 1988. The largest counts reported from VC62 were eight at Wykeham Lakes and five at Seamer being absent from large swaths of this VC [moorland areas]. In VC63, some 75 pairs were reported at Blacktoft Sands with 48 at Pugneys' CP; 28 at Wintersett; 27 at Marley SF and 20 each at Thrybergh CP and Thorpe Marsh. Bred widely in the lowland areas of VC64 with 33 in song at Staveley NR on 16th May being the highest count reported. Few records received from VC65. In the absence of comments assumed to have had a successful breeding season. The last of the year, all in October, were reported from Spurn on the 8th; LDNNR on the 10th and Pugneys' CP on the 11th.

Marsh Warbler *Acrocephalus palustris*
1994: Singles at Flamborough on 24th and 26th May (PAL *et al*); Kilnsea on 30th and at Filey on the 31st (JH *et al*).
1995: Singles singing at Spurn on 23rd May and at Flamborough on the 31st (NP) and the 1st June [considered to be different birds]. (PAL: NP).

Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*
1994: Varied comments received with an increase noted in some areas, mainly in the south-west though a decrease at others, [Old Denaby and Flamborough], due to habitat loss. Probably bred at Semer Water for the first time since 1938. It was estimated that 360 pairs bred at Blacktoft Sands and 100 at the LDNNR [no details from Hornsea Mere and Fairburn Ings RSPB Reserve]. Five pairs at Seamer Road Mere [Scarborough]-the most northerly in Yorkshire. The earliest arrival was at Wintersett Res. on 24th April then at Old Denaby on the 25th whilst the last were at Blacktoft Sands on 15th October and then Staveley NR on the 21st.
1995: A census at TLNR on 4th June revealed an increase to 33 pairs, double the previous year and hopefully a true reflection on the status thus halting the decline of recent years. A pair bred at South Gare for the first time thus Seamer Road Mere is replaced as the most northerly breeding location in Yorkshire. Elsewhere in VC62, two pairs at Seamer Road Mere and seven at Wykeham Lakes. In VC61, an estimated 127 pairs at the LDNNR with a good population in the Broomfleet/Market Weighton Canal area; no details from Hornsea Mere. Some 360 pairs were reported breeding at Blacktoft Sands showing no signs of a change in status there whilst 21 singing males were at Pugneys' CP with ten to 15 at a further four locations. Again, no information received from Fairburn Ings RSPB Reserve or Mickletown Ings thus, in VC64, the overall view is not at hand. 14 singing males were recorded at Lowther Lake; eight at Staveley NR.; five at Hay-a-Park GP and singles at a further four locations. The first of the year was at Wheldrake Ings on the 10th April being the earliest ever record for Yorkshire [previous being 13th April 1973 at Denaby Ings] followed by other early arrivals at Old Denaby and Staveley NR on the 14th then at TLNR on the 16th. The last were singles at Blacktoft Sands on the 20th October and Filey on the 27th.

Icterine Warbler *Hippolais icterina*
1994: In spring, one at Filey on 22nd/23rd May whilst six individuals were reported at Flamborough between the 21st and 28th with three present there on the 24th. One was at Whitby on the 22nd/23rd with two at Spurn on the 22nd; one remaining to the 23rd. In autumn, two singles were reported from Filey; seven individuals at Flamborough in September with two on the 2nd/3rd and 21st. At Spurn, eight birds between the 13th August and 15th September with two on the 16th and 31st August. Two singles in September at Kilnsea with one at Grimston on 24th August.
1995: Only one record in spring, at Spurn on the 25th May. During the autumn one was at Flamborough on 11th August with two at Spurn on the 12th/13th, one remaining to the 14th;

another at Spurn on the 18th whilst one was at Flamborough on the 21st. In September, singles at Flamborough on the 1st; Filey on the 3rd and Spurn on the 7th then, on the 8th, one still at Spurn, one at Kilnsea, two at Filey, three at Flamborough and one at Hummersea. The two at Filey were joined by a third on the 9th though only one remained at Flamborough but one appeared at South Gare. One at Grimston on the 10th with one of the Filey birds still present being joined by another bird on the 11th when one was also at Flamborough. Singles were at Spurn on the 17th and Flamborough on the 18th/19th.

Subalpine Warbler *Sylvia cantillans*
1995: A male at Spurn from 6th to 10th May (GV *et al*); a first winter female at Flamborough on 19th September (PAL: MN); a female, caught and ringed, at Sammys' Point, Kilnsea, being present from the 19th September to the 26th (MPL *et al*) and a male at Filey from the 13th to 18th October (CCT *et al*).

Barred Warbler *Sylvia nisoria*
1994: Recorded between the 21st August [Spurn] and the 31st October [also Spurn] usually involving single birds with two at Grimston; four at Filey; seven at Flamborough; 12 at Spurn and one at Scarborough. Two were present at Spurn on 21st August whilst the main influx occurred on the 21st/22nd September with three at Flamborough on the 21st; two at Spurn on the 22nd and singles on that latter date at Scarborough and Grimston.
1995: Singles at Spurn on 15th August and from the 19th to 21st; at Flamborough on the 20th and South Gare on the 26th. In September; one at Filey from the 1st to the 4th with a second bird present on the 2nd; one at Spurn from the 2nd to the 5th whilst two were at Flamborough on the 3rd. Singles at Spurn on the 6th and from the 8th to 9th with additional singles on both the 8th and 9th [different birds]; one at Flamborough from the 8th to the 11th. One at Spurn on the 10th/11th with two on the 12th; two on the 16th and two on the 17th [not the same]. Singles then at Filey on the 18th/19th; Spurn on the 20th; Marske on the 24th and, finally, at Flamborough on the 30th.

Lesser Whitethroat *Sylvia curruca*
1994: The earliest was one at Filey on 21st April then at Flamborough on the 22nd with many locations reporting birds on the 23rd. Numbers were slightly down in VC64 but 23 singing males were recorded at Wintersett being the highest number ever reported from that location. Last to depart were at Flamborough on 23rd October and Spurn on 3rd November.

One at Spurn on the 14th October showed the characteristics of the eastern race *S.c. blythi* whilst nine individuals at Flamborough in October, including two on the 20th and three on the 23rd, "showed characteristics of one of the eastern races".
1995: A single bird at Blackburn Meadows on the 3rd April was the earliest ever for the Sheffield area and the second earliest for Yorkshire [earliest: 2nd April 1976 at Almholme; also two near Staithes on 3rd April 1962 and at Harrogate on the same date]. The next bird was not reported until the 24th, at Broomhill Ings, then at Edderthorpe; Flamborough; Spurn and Wykeham Lakes on the 25th. The main arrival being in early May with 14 at Spurn on the 6th; 11 at Hay-a-Park GP that same day and 28 at High Batts NR on the 7th. A good breeding season along the Lower Derwent with 37 pairs located though, at Flamborough, reported as a fairly scarce breeder. In VC63, at least 25 pairs in the Barnsley area; 12 in the Doncaster area plus a further 12 pairs elsewhere in the VC. Widely noted in the lowland areas of VC64 but very few reported this year from VC65. Light autumnal passage with maxima along the coast of 20 at Filey on the 19th September and 20 at Spurn the following day. The last of the year were at Spurn on 5th November and at Flamborough on the 4th and 6th.

Single birds at Flamborough on the 19th/20 September and at Spurn on the 18th/19th October "showed characteristics of one of the eastern races".

Whitethroat *Sylvia communis*
1994: One was present at Wheldrake Ings on the 21st April being followed by individuals at eight locations on the 23rd and reported as widespread on the 24th. Recorded from several

locations in early October with the latest being singles at Filey on the 9th and Hawsker on the 23rd. Comments indicated a good breeding season with high numbers involved and, in parts of VC64, stated as being back to "pre-crash" numbers.
1995: After the first at Edderthorpe on the 12th April the next was at Firsby Res. on the 13th then Southfield Res. on the 15th and Blacktoft Sands on the 16th. None were reported from the coast until the 23rd. All areas commented that numbers were good with some impressive counts: 61 at Thrybergh Banks [including 47 males] on 6th May; 70 [including 66 males] at Blackburn Meadows on the 7th whilst 46 singing males were present at Spurn on the 26th. 37 pairs bred along the Lower Derwent whilst Wintersett reported 57 males on territory. One at Malham Tarn on the 13th August was the first there since 1982. Coastal passage, in autumn, was relatively light with maxima of 55 at Spurn on 14th August then 34 on the 3rd September and 38 on the 8th when 28 were at Flamborough whilst 16 were at Filey on the 2nd. Late birds were at Filey on 29th September and Spurn on the 30th then a very late bird at Northcliffe [Bradford] on 25th October.

Garden Warbler *Sylvia borin*
1994: The first of the year was reported from Thornton Ellers on 21st April then singles were recorded at five locations on the 24th. Coastal passage was normal excepting a record spring count at Spurn of ten on 22nd May. Status generally stable but a slight decrease in some areas of VC64 though, in VC63, Wintersett reported a record 29 singing males. The latest reported were one at Whitestone Point on 15th October with two at Blackburn Meadows on the 25th.
1995: One, at Askern, on the 14th April was well in advance of the next at Farnham GP on the 24th then recorded at Elland GP on the 26th. The first on the coast were at Spurn and Filey on the 29th in what was generally a poor spring passage though, inland, 24 were at High Batts NR on 7th May with 11 at Wheldrake Ings on the 13th and ten each at Bishop Wood on the 30th and Lindley Wood Res. during that month. Breeding numbers at the LDNNR appeared slightly down with an estimated 60 pairs throughout the site. In VC62, breeding numbers were considered as unchanged whilst in VC63, good breeding counts were reported from all society areas with at least 60 pairs in the Barnsley area and 40 around Doncaster. No comments or counts received from either VCs 64 or 65. Autumn passage, along the coast, showed two peaks, on 8th September, when 17 were at South Gare; 20 at Filey; 35 at Flamborough but less than ten at Spurn. On the 18th, 40 were at Spurn with 28 on the 19th and 18 on the 20th. Excepting at Flamborough, where 16 were present on the 17th, this second influx was minimal elsewhere. The last of the year were reported inland, on the 7th October, at Wintersett and, along the coast, on the 21st, at Filey; 23rd at Spurn and the 4th November at Flamborough.

Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla*
1994: During January/February individuals were reported at some 60 locations though only three of these were in the east of the county; reported at a lesser number of locations in December, again with a very strong westerly bias. "Healthy populations" in parts of VC64 with few comments from other areas but TLNR suggested a decline at that location. Coastal passage was light in both spring and autumn.
1995: Extremely scarce in the east as a wintering bird with only two records, at Spurn on the 6th/7th January and at Marske from the 17th January to the 20th February. Further west, in VC63, this species is becoming increasingly common in winter being reported, in the early months, from 28 locations almost half of which were in urban Sheffield. In VC64, wintering birds were also quite widespread, particularly in Leeds where at least 15 individuals were reported in gardens. A similar spread of records was reported during November and December, generally singles, but five at Thorpe Salvin on 9th December and five, in one tree, in an Ilkley garden on the 30th. With so many wintering individuals, early and late migrants are difficult to assess. Both spring and autumn passage was light whilst breeding numbers, generally, appeared unchanged though possibly slightly down at the LDNNR.

Greenish Warbler *Phylloscopus trochiloides*
1995: The best year ever for this species with singles at Spurn on 23rd August (AD); at Filey

from the 2nd to 6th September (REH *et al*); at Flamborough on 9th September (DB; JM; PAL; MN; SW; PJW); at Spurn from the 11th to 12th September (DJB *et al*) and Filey from 17th to 19th September (LG *et al*). Another bird at Flamborough on 8th September (PAL) has yet to be submitted to the ***BBRC***.

Arctic Warbler *Phylloscopus borealis*
1994: One at Flamborough on 22nd September (PJW).
1995: One at Flamborough from the 17th to 19th September (AMA: DB: PAL: MN).

Pallas's Warbler *Phylloscopus proregulus*
1994: Singles at Flamborough on 17th; 23rd to 24th October then on the 4th November remaining to the 5th when a second individual was present. Spurn recorded one from the 21st to 24th October with a second individual from the 22nd to the 23rd and a third bird there on the 22nd. One also there on the 3rd November. At Kilnsea one was seen on the 16th October whilst one was also present at nearby Easington on the same day. Filey reported singles from the 3rd to 4th November and from the 10th to the 15th whilst, further north, one on Scarborough Castle Hill from the 22nd to 23rd October and singles at Ness Point on the 22nd October and 5th November. Three were in the Kilnsea area on 5th November.
1995: Rather a poor year, three individuals reported at Flamborough, one from the 6th to 11th November, another on the 10th and the third bird on the 12th. One at Cornelian Bay [Scarborough] on the 12th and one at Spurn on the 13th.

Yellow-browed Warbler *Phylloscopus inornatus*
1994: Recorded frequently at Spurn between the 18th September and 13th November, usually single birds but two were present on the 25th and 26th September; 14th and 21st October. It is considered that some 12 individuals were involved. Up to five were in the Kilnsea-Easington area between 18th September and 22nd October whilst two were at Grimston on the 10th October. An estimated 27 individuals were recorded at Flamborough between the 21st September and mid-October with six on the 23rd September; six on the 25th and 26th then one to three on ten days during October with four on the 16th. Birds were recorded on 19 days, at Filey, between the 17th September and the 6th November with two on the 23rd and four on the 26th September whilst three were present there on both the 2nd and 11th October. Singles were reported in the Whitby/Hawsker area on six occasions between the 17th September and the 6th November.

An individual considered to be of the race *P.i. humei* [Hume's Yellow-browed Warbler] was present at Flamborough between the 11th and 15th November (JCL: JM: MN: DB: BR: DIMW).
1995: A very poor year by recent standards. Two were at Flamborough on the 17th September, one of which remained to the 19th. One at Staithes on the 18th then one at Filey from the 21st to the 26th though was not recorded every day. Singles then at Flamborough on the 29th September; 7th and 22nd October; one at Barmston on the 9th October; two at Spurn on the 21st October with one at Cornelian Bay [Scarborough] on the 12th November.

One, at Spurn on the 3rd November, showed characteristics of the race *P.i. humei* [Hume's Yellow-browed Warbler].

Dusky Warbler *Phylloscopus fuscatus*
1994: Two at Flamborough on 21st October (PAL: PB: JCL *et al*); one of which was considered to have remained near South Landing for several days. One at Grimston on the 5th/6th November (AI: TI).
1995: One at Spurn from 29th October to 3rd November (LJD: DRM: RR *et al*).

Wood Warbler *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*
1994: One at Ewden on 24th April with records then from many locations by early May. Status would appear to be unchanged. One of the best years at Spurn where four were present on 16th May and three on the 24th August. Elsewhere, few records after males ceased singing

with the last, on 30th September, at Filey.

1995: In contrast to last year no birds were reported from the coast during spring. The first of the year being at Agden Dyke Wood on the 13th April [being the earliest ever for the Sheffield area] with the next at Brayton Barff, VC64, on the 26th. Confirmed breeding was not proven at many locations but status would not appear to be changed with the Bradford/Huddersfield/Halifax area probably holding at least 12 pairs and the South Pennine cloughs covered by the Sheffield and Barnsley Societies holding about 15 pairs. By mid-May, seven were singing in Guisecliffe Wood [VC64] with ten on territory in Strid Wood [also VC64]. Singing birds were present throughout most of the North Yorks. Moors forests though the actual numbers/details were sketchy. Few were reported inland after early July with only light coastal passage, the last being at Filey on the 23rd September.

Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita*

1994: Recorded during January/February at 17 locations one of which, at Dowley, was attributed to the race *P.c. tristis* and one at Blacktoft Sands as "Siberian". Breeding status apparently unchanged.

Individuals attributed to the eastern race *P.c. tristis* were at Flamborough on 21st April; 15th/16th October and 5th/6th November [plus the one at Dowley].

1995: Single birds were reported over-wintering at some 12 locations. The first "migrants" were reported on the 11th March at Staveley NR; Marley SF.; Potteric Carr; Southfield Res. and Wintersett Res. then on the 12th at Spurn and Thorpe Marsh. Spring passage was normal whilst breeding numbers appeared to be unchanged excepting at the LDNNR where this species was said to be "still at a very low ebb"; seven males holding territory against two in 1994. Autumn passage also light. Wintering individuals were reported from 16 locations.

Small numbers of birds attributed to the Scandinavian race *P.c. abietinus* were reported at Flamborough during both spring and autumn with three on 29th April.

Individuals showing characteristics of the Siberian race *P.c. tristis* were reported at Flamborough on 28th April; two on the 4th/5th November with four on the 6th and then one on the 12th.

Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus*

1994: The first of the year was reported at Thrybergh CP on the 30th March then, on the 31st, at TLNR; Bessacarr and Potteric Carr. Breeding status was apparently unchanged whilst both spring and autumn passage were relatively light. Late birds were recorded at Flamborough on 21st October; 11th to 14th November and at Filey on the 19th.

1995: One at Jackson's Bay [Scarborough] on 19th March was the second earliest ever for Yorkshire [18th March 1990 at Rougemont, Leeds] being followed by one at Scarborough on the 23rd [same?] then at Swinsty on 25th and the RVCP on the 31st whilst most locations reported their first about the 6th April. Spring passage at Filey was good with a peak of 50 on the 2nd May but Spurn never had more than ten. Breeding numbers were reported as good in all areas excepting parts of North Leeds where a decline was noted. A good fall during mid-September along the coast with peaks of 155 at Flamborough on 8th September when 70 were at Filey but far fewer at Spurn. The following day saw 91 at Filey and 120 at Flamborough where 135 were present on the 10th. Spurn recorded 200 on the 18th and 100 on the 19th with 90 at Flamborough on the 18th. The last of the year were at Flamborough on the 14th October; Filey on the 15th; Spurn on the 16th then, inland, at Sheffield on the 18th and Blacktoft Sands on the 29th.

Individuals showing the characteristics of the northern race *P.t. acredula* were reported from Flamborough on the 27th and 29th April with up to three on five days in May until the 25th. Two were trapped and ringed at Filey on the 14th September.

Goldcrest *Regulus regulus*

1994: Numbers in parts of the Sheffield area said to be down on previous years though little change was reported from other locations. Immigration, noted in autumn, along the coast, with, on 16th October, 500 at Spurn and 180 at Flamborough; 1000 at the latter on the 17th with 200

on the 18th then 500 at Spurn on the 19th.
1995: Breeding status maintained in VC63 but fewer breeding records than usual in VC64; virtually no change in status at TLNR whilst no comments were received from other areas. Spring passage, on the coast, was light with maxima, at Spurn, of up to 23 in late April, and, at Flamborough, of 30 on the 22nd. In autumn, only a small fall with 150 at Spurn on 10th October then 100 on 4th November whilst fewer were reported elsewhere with 80 at Flamborough on the 4th November and 55 on the 11th. Inland, an influx was noted in VC63 with 108 in Woolley Woods on the 10th September and, in VC64, 50+ at Lindley Wood Res. on 26th September with 100+ at Fountains Abbey on 16th October.

Firecrest *Regulus ignicapillus*
1994: A good year with a notable influx into VC63 where singles were at Elland GP from 22nd to 24th January; Wintersett Res.; a pair from 1993 to 15th January with one remaining until the 19th; Treeton Dyke/Treeton Grange on 11th January and 16th February; Potteric Carr on 23rd January; Liversedge on 3rd and 20th February; at Gelston Wood on 6th March; at Lewdon on 8th/9th March and Southfield Res. on 9th April. A very elusive pair were at Edderthorpe from 6th January to late February with a singing male there on 16th March. In VC64 one was reported from Gledhow Woods [Leeds] from the 1st to 3rd April. In VC61, a singing male was at Wheldrake on 21st/22nd April with singles occasionally on the coast at Filey; Spurn and Flamborough. In autumn, reported regularly at Spurn between late September and late November, mainly single birds but two on the 10th and 22nd October; three on the 4th; 6th and 11th November whilst five were present on the 5th. Three were in Kilnsea on the 22nd October. Fewer at Flamborough but two on 22nd and 30th October. Singles occasionally at Filey and near Whitby. Inland, one resided in Woolley Woods [Sheffield] from 20th November to the years end with singles at Meltham on 5th October and at Sandall Beat Wood [Doncaster] on 19th November.
1995: A pair bred to the west of Sheffield probably raising two young and may have attempted a second brood. On the 1st July, two juveniles were seen in a conifer plantation at a second location whilst a singing male was present at a third locality on 14th May (RDH: SJR: EAF *et al*). This is the first confirmed breeding in Yorkshire [also bred in North Derbyshire in 1995]. In VC61, one at Elvington on 22nd January then, in spring, singles were at TLNR on 5th and 7th March; Kilnsea on 2nd April; at Spurn also on the 2nd then on the 12th/13th and 29th; at Flamborough on the 1st and 5th May with two on the 9th April; at Filey on the 12th and 29th April. In VC62, one at Hawkser on the 9th April whilst inland, the bird at Woolley Woods remained from 1994 until the 9th March with one at Crooksmoor [Sheffield] on the 2nd March. During the latter months, one at Redcar from 17th to 31st December; at Filey from the 13th to 15th November; at Flamborough on the 8th and 29th October; 14th and 18th/19th November; at Spurn on the 13th November. Inland, one at Thornton Ellers on 21st November and Oughtibridge on 3rd December.

Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata*
1994: Considered to have had a good breeding season in most areas. The first of the year was at Woodhouse on 28th April then one at Wass on the 29th with the last at Filey on 1st October and Spurn on the 2nd. Coastal passage was light with maxima of ten at Spurn on 22nd May and 22 at Flamborough on the 24th.
1995: Many locations reported birds arriving later than usual, often into the third week of May although singles were on Hatfield Moors on 27th April and in Strid Woods on the 30th. Spring passage was light along the coast with maxima of five at both Spurn and Flamborough. Breeding numbers at all locations [that commented] were down. Total pairs located in the Halifax/Bradford/Huddersfield area was *c.*20 whilst at Wilsic [Doncaster] 24 pairs were located against 35 in 1994. 20 pairs were found at Thornton Ellers whilst "several pairs" bred at Flamborough. Light autumnal passage along the coast with peaks at Spurn of 15 on 18th September; Filey with 15 on the 8th and Flamborough where 22 were present on the 9th. Late birds were at Spurn on 11th October; Flamborough on 1st November with the last on the 6th at Ardsley Crematorium [Barnsley].

Red-breasted Flycatcher *Fidecula parva*

1994: All records concerned singles birds excepting two at Flamborough on 24th September, one of which remained until the 26th. One there on the 17th October. At Kilnsea, one from the 18th to 23rd September whilst individuals were present at Spurn on the 22nd September and 3rd November; at Filey, one on 24th September may have been the bird seen nearby the following day and trapped and ringed on the 26th. One, along the estuary at Sammy's Point from the 21st to 23rd September whilst further upstream, one was at Sunk Island on the 21st.

1995: One, at Spurn, on the 24th May was the only spring record. In September, an influx occurred with possibly 12 individuals at Flamborough where one was present on the 10th then six on the 17th; seven on the 18th [including three new arrivals] and five on the 19th [one new male] with the last on the 21st. One at Ravenscar on the 9th whilst two were at Filey on the 17th, one remaining until the 18th. Strangely, not reported at Spurn during the autumn.

Pied Flycatcher *Fidecula hypoleuca*

1994: The first to be reported were on 24th April at Crimple Valley; Hoodstorth; Langsett and Spurn with the last at Flamborough on the 18th October; Filey on the 22nd and a very late bird at Spurn on 3rd November. Probably still extending its range in the Sheffield area and considered to have had a good year elsewhere. Coastal passage light with maxima at Spurn of 41 on 23rd August and 66 on 1st September.

1995: Some early arrivals this year with singles in Strid Woods and Hawkworth Spring Woods [both VC64] on the 10th April; Cliffe Woods, Langsett on the 11th then Scar Valley on the 12th. Very few in the east where the first along the coast was at Spurn on the 25th April. Spring passage along the coast being very light. In VC63, the impetus of the expansion which started during the early 1980s appears to have halted with three to five pairs in the Halifax area and at least eight pairs in the Barnsley and Sheffield areas. In VC64, birds were recorded at some 31 locations with breeding occurring, in some strength, at 12 of these. 16 territories were located in Strid Woods on 6th May; 13 pairs bred at Folly Hall Wood with a further 11 pairs at two nearby locations [Dob Park and Carr Farm]. No change reported in VC65 where six pairs bred in nest boxes at West Tanfield. Two pairs using nest boxes at Farndale was the only report of breeding in VC62. Good autumn passage along the coast with peaks of 20 on 11th August at Flamborough where 37 were present the following day; 19 at Spurn on the 19th then the main influx on 8th September when 20 were at Spurn; eight at Grimston; 120 at Flamborough; 20 at Filey; 30 at Staithes and 21 at Boulby. On the 9th; 20 at Grimston; 120 still at Flamborough and 20 at Filey; 66 at Flamborough on the 10th decreasing to 21 by the 19th whilst 15 were at Staithes on the 18th. This influx was also noted inland when three were at Wymingbrook on the 10th [breeding birds have left long before this date]. The last of the year, inland, were at Malham Tarn and Barlow Common on 26th September and, along the coast, at Spurn on the 26th; Flamborough on the 1st; 9th and 12th October.

Bearded Tit *Panurus biamicus*

1994: An estimated 50 pairs bred at Blacktoft Sands with some 200 young being reported in flight on 13th July. Elsewhere, the pair first seen at Staveley NR on 26th December 1993 remained until 2nd April. Three were recorded at Wheldrake Ings on 16th November.

1995: About 60 pairs were reported to have bred at Blacktoft Sands with an estimated 150 individuals present there on both the 15th and 29th October. The only records away from that location were from TLNR, where a male was seen on 6th April, and along the Pocklington Canal, at Bielby, on the 28th October.

Long-tailed Tit *Aegithalos caudatus*

1994: No reported change in status. The largest gatherings recorded were 88 at TLNR on 5th November with 73 there on 1st October; 67 at Grimston on the 10th October and 60 at Goldborough Woods [VC64] on 9th July.

1995: Appears to be doing well in all areas of VC63 whilst, in VC64, continues to be attracted to garden feeding stations in increasing numbers. Otherwise, no comments were received and thus status is assumed to be unchanged. Flocks of up to 30 not uncommon during the early

months though *c.*70 were at Lindley Wood Res, on 11th January. During the latter months the maxima recorded were 92 at Wheldrake Ings on 26th November; 90 at Lindley Wood Res. on the 14th November; 75 at TLNR on the 14th October and *c.*70 at Wheldrake Ings during October.

Marsh Tit *Parus palustris*

1994: Fewer reports from VC64 than in 1993 but not certain whether this is a true decline or lack of observer coverage. Quite well distributed in parts of VC63 and in the York area. One at Pulfin Bog [VC61] on 20th March was the first record for that location.

1995: In VC61, absent from the east with North Cliffe Woods ["where seen on most visits"] being the most easterly location. Four pairs bred at Wheldrake Ings with a further four pairs at Thornton Ellers. One at Spurn on 1st August was only the seventh occurrence for the Observatory. Possibly under reported in this VC. Stated as "quite common" in wooded areas of VC62 [being more common than Willow Tit] but little evidence of breeding forthcoming. Very scarce in VC63 and under reported though a few pairs bred in the Doncaster area. Only reported from 27 locations in VC64, invariably one or two birds at each and most records being outwith the breeding season; again thought to be under-reported. No comments received from VC65.

Willow Tit *Parus montanus*

1994: "Continued decline" in the Huddersfield area whilst in VC64 "possibly not decreasing any further" with "low numbers from all the well-watched sites" in VC63. The only other comment received was "becoming scarce" in the R. Hull valley. 13 at Worsbrough on 13th January being the highest count reported.

1995: Scarce in the east but may still breed at TLNR whilst 21 pairs bred at the LDNNR with a further three elsewhere in the York area. No definite breeding records from VC62 [excepting the York area] whilst, in VC63, 16 pairs bred in the Barnsley area but only six in the Huddersfield area; reported as very scarce west of Sheffield with only small numbers to the east. Less than ten in the Rotherham area and low numbers in the Doncaster area with no change in breeding status. Reported from 22 sites in VC64 where it is, hopefully, under-reported though five pairs bred at Swillington.

Coal Tit *Parus ater*

1994: Increased reports from the eastern part of the Sheffield area otherwise status would appear unchanged. 22 during October at Wilsic being the maximum reported.

1995: In VC63, generally showed no change in status though, at two locations, in the Doncaster area breeding numbers increased. All reports received from VCs 61; 62 and 64 also gave no indications of any change in status whilst no unusually large numbers were recorded.

Blue Tit *Parus caerleus*

1994: Status would appear to be unchanged. Indications of migrants were 40 on the Outer Head at Flamborough on 1st and 9th October with 60 on the 12th November. 151 were counted at Wintersett Res. on 8th January.

1995: From the few comments received status would appear to be unchanged. The largest gatherings reported were 125 at Wheldrake Ings on the 26th November and 100 at TLNR on the 22nd December. Some indications of coastal passage were noted at Spurn where 26 were present on the 8th September and at Flamborough with 60 on the 17th September and 50 on the 22nd October.

Great Tit *Parus major*

1994: Status would appear to be unchanged.

1995: Again, status would appear to be unchanged. Maxima recorded were 61 at Wheldrake Ings on 26th November with up to 100 at Wilsic in December. Little evidence of coastal passage where numbers were said to be smaller than of late.

Nuthatch *Sitta europaea*
1994: Appears to be still expanding its range in some areas around Leeds and Harrogate, elsewhere, however, status is apparently unchanged.
1995: Said to be increasing, albeit fitfully, in parts of VC63. Status elsewhere would appear to be unchanged. Bred, or probably bred, at two locations in the Bradford area; at seven locations in the Huddersfield area; seven pairs located at four sites in the Barnsley area and 13 pairs at seven sites near Doncaster; did not breed in the Halifax area [though has done so in recent years]. Reported from most of the mature woodlands of VC64 with at least eight territories in Bolton Abbey Woods. Reported as an increasingly frequent visitor to garden feeding stations in VC64. Maximum reported was ten at Wilsic on 12th October.

Treecreeper *Certhia familiaris*
1994: Status would appear to be unchanged. Individuals considered to be of the nominate [northern] race *C.f. familiaris* were reported from Flamborough on 13th October and 12th November.
1995: A small increase in breeding numbers may have occurred at some locations otherwise status was apparently unchanged. 21 at Lindley Wood Res. on 11th July and 30 at Bolton Abbey Woods on 7th June would indicate successful breeding seasons at those two locations.

Golden Oriole *Oriolus oriolus*
1994: A singing male was present from 29th May to 1st June, in suitable habitat, in the east of the county but no further evidence of breeding was forthcoming. A pair were present at Spurn from 14th to 16th May with three on the 17th. A female at Sammy's Point, Kilnsea, on 20th May was possibly the bird seen in Kilnsea churchyard that same day and at Spurn on the 22nd where it remained until the 25th. A male at TLNR on 24th May.
1995: A male was reported at Flamborough on 14th May; singles at Spurn on the 20th; 22nd and 27th May; 10th and 11th June. Inland, a male seen near Thorpe Salvin in early May; one at Blacktoft Sands on the 19th then one [female] at Brampton Common on the 20th. A male near Agden on the 6th June.

Red-backed Shrike *Lanius collurio*
1994: An excellent spring with 11+ individuals recorded at Spurn between the 21st and 28th May, five being present on the 22nd; 26th and 27th; a male at Sammy's Point, Kilnsea, on the 17th then a pair from the 20th to 24th and finally a female on the 11th June. A female was at Grimston on the 22nd May with a male at Atwick on the 25th. Some 16 individuals were reported from Flamborough between the 21st and 28th May with seven being present on the 27th and four on the 25th; 26th and 28th. Five plus at Filey where three were recorded on the 23rd. Six in the Whitby area where five were present on the 23rd. A quiet autumn with four at Spurn [two on the 23rd August]; two singles at Filey; four at Flamborough [two on the 21st September]; two near Whitby; two singles at Grimston and one, the only inland record, at Bransholme on the 13th September.
1995: A male at Spurn from the 13th to 15th May with a second bird on the 13th plus another male there on the 18th. One at Kilnsea on the 23rd moved to Spurn on the 24th remaining there until the 26th. One, a female, at the BLPNR on the 24th May. A female at Hummersea on the 18th May and a male at Flamborough on the 26th June. Inland, one to the north of TLNR on the 3rd May and a male at Blacktoft Sands on the 28th. In autumn, Spurn had a juvenile on the 19th/20th August, another on the 23rd and a third from the 19th to 23rd September. A juvenile was at Easington on the 22nd/23rd September with what may have been the same bird at Haverfield Quarries [Welwick] on the 23rd. Further north along the coast, an immature was at Grimston on the 9th September; one at Hornsea on the 19th; a juvenile at Flamborough from the 24th to the 29th August followed by a total of five individuals in September on the 8th; 18th; 19th; 20th and 23rd. Singles were at Filey on the 2nd/3rd and 19th to 24th September; at Hawsker on the 19th then different individuals at South Gare on the 19th and 20th.

Great Grey Shrike *Lanius excubitor*
1994: Remains quite scarce; one at Haverfield Quarries [Welwick] on the 12th April then,

along the coast, four individuals at Spurn in autumn between 21st September and the 18th October with two on the 17th. Two were at Flamborough on the 25th September and 17th October with single individuals occasionally between the 22nd September and 21st October. Inland, one between Reeth and Healaugh on 5th February; one in the Helmsley/Rievaulx area between the 13th and 20th February; one at Wilthorpe on 5th October and one at Midhopestones on 19th/20th November moving to Strines on the 22nd and remaining into 1995.

1995: Becoming increasingly scarce. On the coast, singles were reported from Easington on the 29th/30th April; one at South Gare from the 20th to 23rd September whilst the bird at Kirkleatham Business Park from the 7th to 9th October was possibly this same individual. One at Spurn on the 12th October and one at Flamborough on the 4th November. Inland, the Strines bird remained in that general area until the 24th February. Singles were at North Anston Pit on the 29th April and on Thorne Moors on the 12th November.

Woodchat Shrike *Lanius senator*

1994: A juvenile at Spurn from the 14th to 23rd September.

Jay *Garrulus glandarius*

1994: Possibly still increasing in the Leeds area and considered to be increasing in parts of the Sheffield area. More frequent along the coast than usual with at least eight at Spurn during the spring whilst one wintered at Flamborough where a small return passage was noted in spring.

1995: Status would appear to be unchanged with all societies in VC63 reporting good breeding numbers in all suitable areas. Stated as more frequent at garden feeding stations in VC64. Remains scarce in the southeast with only single records at Spurn; Filey and Flamborough. Recorded several times in spring at Pulfin Bog which is unusual whilst nearby TLNR had two or three on the 11th February. Maxima reported were ten at Temple Newsam [no date]; 13 at Listerdale Wood and 20 in the Sheaf valley, Millhouses, on the 20th April [both Sheffield area].

Magpie *Pica pica*

1994: Still increasing in many areas. Roosts at Gledhow Valley Woods [Leeds] totalled up to 305 individuals.

1995: Very few comments received but stated as "still increasing" in the Sheffield area and from several societies in VC64, "remains all too common". No roosts/gatherings in excess of 40 were reported from the east but, in VCs 63 and 64, many gatherings of 80+ were recorded with maxima, in VC63, of 100+ regularly at Firsby Res. during the period January to March with 123 on the 11th February whilst, in VC64, by far the largest roost was at Gledhow Valley Woods [Leeds] with 300 on 13th January and 315 on the 28th December.

Jackdaw *Corvus monedula*

1994: Status apparently unchanged though under-reported in many areas. Maximum gathering reported was 2200 at TLNR on 9th January.

Individuals of the Scandinavian [nominate] race *C.m. monedula* were reported in small numbers from Flamborough in both spring and autumn.

1995: In the absence of any comments to the contrary status would appear to be unchanged. Few societies reported any significant counts, the maxima recorded being 1500+ at Denton Park on the 11th August; 3800 at TLNR on the 1st January; 5000 there on the 12th and 3100 on the 27th November. No records received from Hornsea Mere where large numbers are known to roost.

Individuals clearly identifiable as being of the nominate [Scandinavian] race *C.m. monedula* were recorded at Flamborough in April, on the 14th; 17th and 20th [two birds]. A flock of 150 migrants observed flying in off the sea on the 4th November included a small number of well-marked individuals and may, conceivably, have all been of this race.

Rook *Corvus frugilegus*

1994: Status apparently unchanged; maximum reported being 2000 at TLNR in November.

1995: Little change in status. A survey undertaken by the Sheffield Bird Study group

revealed an overall reduction of 6.8% however, in the five 10km squares that lie in Yorkshire, the reduction was negligible, from 2063 nests in 1990 to 2001 this year.

Carrion Crow *Corvus corone*

1994: Increasing in parts of VC64; no comments from other areas. The largest gathering being 650 at Beaver Dyke Res on the 20th August.

Hooded Crows, *C.c. cornix*, were reported from some 16 locations [more than in recent years], usually single birds but two at Flamborough on the 23rd April and 28th October whilst, at Spurn, two were present on the 22nd April and 24th October with six on the 25th and nine on the 27th.

1995: Continues to increase in most areas of VC63 with birds becoming widespread in the urban parts of Sheffield. This trend was noted some years ago in the Huddersfield area following a corresponding increase in the traditional woodland/farmland areas. Elsewhere, status would appear to be unchanged though considered to be under-reported. An unusual occurrence concerned 120, on the 6th December, following a man in Welton Street [Hull] who was throwing bread to them.

Birds of the race *C.c. cornix* [Hooded Crow] showed a great increase this year. Flamborough actually reporting a record year with, in spring, seven on the 9th April; 14 on the 15th and 13 on the 17th and, in May, eight on the 7th; six on the 14th and four on the 19th. Unseasonal occurrences were singles on the 16th June; 16th July and the 11th August. Far fewer were recorded during the period October to December with singles on three days in October and two on the 28th/29th then two again on the 12th November. Further north, Filey reported birds on seven days in spring with three moving south on the 12th April and four north on the 21st. Singles occasionally during the early months at Scarborough; Cromer Point; Scalby; Ravenscar and Staithes plus birds at Scalby on the 2nd and 15th May and at Staithes on the 27th. Only one or two on four days at Spurn. Inland, few reported; in VC65, one at Nosterfield on 23rd January; VC63, singles at Sugden Tip [Keighley] from the 2nd February to 16th March whilst the overwintering birds at Dunscroft and Potteric Carr remained until the 3rd and 28th March respectively. One at Worsbrough Res. on the 28th October. The only records from VC61 were singles at Carnaby Airfield from the 4th to 6th January; TLNR on the 25th February and at Pulfin Bog on the 28th October.

Raven *Corvus corax*

1994: Indications are of a slow increase. In the southwest, two at Dovestones during January/March; two in the Strines area during the early months. One to two occasionally in the Midhope/Ewden area on a few days in the period January to April. A pair at Whiteholme on the 5th October. Two flying east over Anglers' CP/Wintersett on the 17th June were the first reported from that area since 1813 when the last was shot at Walton Hall. In the northwest, occasionally one or two at Scar House Res.; Gouthwaite Res.; Embsay Moor; Colsterdale; Fountains Fell; Pen-y-Ghent; Malham Tarn and Staveley NR.

1995: No details of breeding received but it is considered that the species is slowly increasing. There were many records of one or two birds at several locations in the southwest, no doubt originating from Derbyshire where one or two pairs apparently breed. Reported on 16 occasions in the Barnsley area, ten of which were in the period January to March. Five records came from one locality in the Halifax area during spring including four birds on the 21st April. In VC64, two were at Thorpe on the 14th February whilst at Malham Tarn, two were present on the 22nd March and 20th August then one on the 6th September and two again on the 8th October. Two were on Barden Fell on the 26th December. The only report from VC65 was of a single bird in Colsterdale on the 6th May. One very unusual record concerns a bird which flew south, then returned north, at Barmston on 5th September (PP) being the first record for that location.

Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*

1994: Widespread-no comments received thus status assumed to be unchanged. The largest roosts reported were 100,000 at Staveley NR on 23rd October and 50,000 at Blacktoft Sands

on the 4th November.
1995: Widespread though declining with a few societies commenting as such. Sheffield stated "the days of a quarter of a million roosting at Wentworth are long gone" etc.; a sentiment which must be repeated elsewhere. Few city centre roosts are counted nowadays; the largest being 7000 at Sheffield. In contrast to the decline in numbers, southwesterly passage in autumn, over the Pennines at Redmires/Strines/Rod Moor was the highest for 15 years with peaks of 3200 at Strines and 1800 at Redmires on 22nd October; 3700 at Strines and 1800 over Redmires the following day. 9050 flew west along the Humber at Sunk Island on the 22nd October.

Rose-coloured Starling *Sturnus roseus*
1994: A male at Spurn on the 4th June (DRM: BRS *et al*). An adult at Bridlington on 19th June (K & SB) is still under consideration by the ***BBRC***.
1995: An adult at Withernsea on 11th June (H & M-CF) whist another male was in a Scarborough garden on the 20th (RM) then a juvenile at Spurn on the 10th October (AD).

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*
1994: Continues to decline. In Leeds, one observer states " this species [is] outnumbered by Tree Sparrow in my garden". "Demise continues and appears to be most striking in the inner city areas of Sheffield and Rotherham". [Sheffield Bird Study Group]. Other areas consider status to be relatively stable.
1995: The decline continues in most areas with Sheffield, Doncaster, Barnsley and Bradford, in VC63, commenting as such. VC64 states "a definite decline in some areas but still fairly common in others". Few comments from VC61 and then only from localised areas; Flamborough stating "remains as common as ever" but the LDNNR reported "resident breeder though often difficult to find". The largest flocks reported were 300 at Stoors Mill Lane [Barnsley] on 14th May and 320 at Thornaby on the 9th September.

Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus*
1994: Few comments received; appears to be stable in the Sheffield area; still declining in the Barnsley area. Other comments received were "still declining but rate slowing" [VC64]; "seems to be thriving" [Filey]. Maxima reported were 400 at Thornton Ellers on 3rd January with 230 there on the 27th November; 200 at East Cottingwith on 15th January. Passage noted at Flamborough with 220 on the 4th April and 200 on the 18th October whilst the peak at Spurn was 110 on the 24th October.
1995: In VC64, appears to be still declining with all societies reporting records from fewer breeding sites. All areas of VC63 report a similar situation however, a census by the Doncaster & District Orn. Soc. located 249 pairs mainly in the south and east of the area [some pairs will be in Notts] but conversely the Bradford; Halifax; Huddersfield and Barnsley societies could only find birds at a total of eight locations. Better numbers were recorded in the lowlands particularly where the Sheffield, Rotherham and Doncaster areas overlap. Stated as rare in the northern part of the York area. Despite the decline several large gatherings were reported with 150 at Thornton Ellers on 28th January; 120 at Flamborough on the 4th April; 230 at Breighton on the 17th September; 320 at Melbourne on the 26th September and 300 at Thornton Ellers on the 7th October. 700 were reported from the Idle valley [partly in Notts] on the 15th January with 250 there on the 29th November.

Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs*
1994: Breeding status apparently unchanged. No large post breeding flocks reported from VC64 or from the Sheffield area. The largest flock reported being 340 at Stainborough on the 30th December. Southwesterly passage was noted over Strines/Redmires in autumn with 360 in one hour at Strines on the 30th September and 850 over Strines/Rod Moor on the 24th October when 380 were recorded at Redmires.
1995: Little change in status reported with the only comment coming from TLNR where a slight increase was noted. The largest gatherings reported were from the north and west of the

county with 900 in one field near Leighton on 16th December. No other flock approached this magnitude with 450 at Broomhill Ings on 8th October; 322 going to roost at Redmires Res. on the 4th March with 300+ in Troutsdale on 16th February; 300 at Studley Park on 30th November; 300 at Hardcastle Crags on 9th December and up to 300 at Bierley Banks during January. Several other locations reported 200+ occasionally. Southwesterly passage over the Strines/Redmires/Rod Moor area in autumn was heavier than in 1994 with a total of 5500 counted at Strines and 2150 at Redmires. Peak movements at these locations being 515 at Rod Moor on the 10th October; 640 at Strines and 415 at Redmires, both on the 15th. Passage along the coast was only very light.

Brambling *Fringilla montifringilla*
1994: Quite a good year in the south but not particularly evident elsewhere. Maxima during the early months were 700 near Bawtry on the 20th February; 600 near Oswaldkirk, also on the 20th; 500 at Thornton Ellers all January; 500 at Barmby Moor on 9th January remaining to the end of the month and 500 near Helmsley from mid-March to mid-April. During the latter months; 600 passed over Strines Top on both the 23rd and 24th October whilst 180 flew west at Pulfin Bog in three and a half hours on the 16th. Flocks during these months were generally small.
1995: Again scarcer in the east than the remainder of the county. The maxima reported during the early months were 300 at Bierley Banks in January moving to nearby Masham later that month. 300+ near Mickley on 25th February whilst 120 were at Blaxton Common on 9th January and 150 at Ughill in mid-February. Several other locations reported up to 80 occasionally. The last of the spring were at Worsbrough and Harrogate on the 1st May and Filey on the 6th. However, singles were reported at Spurn from the 20th to 28th June with a male present in Strid Woods on 2nd July. The first returning birds were noted at Spurn on the 30th September with the first influx about the 21st October when 130 were at Flamborough and 60 at Spurn whilst inland, 55 flew west over Thorne Moors on this date and 300 over Redmires the following day. A second influx occurred on the 28th/29th; on the former 180 flew west at Strines and on the latter date, 200 were at Flamborough; 200 at Spurn and 40+ at Grimston. Large flocks were reported from several locations towards the end of the year with 400 at Timble Ings on the 24th November; 1000+ at Withens Clough on the 3rd December; 300 in Middleton Woods on the 5th; 300 at Ughill on the 7th; 300 at Langsett on the 24th then 300 at Holmfirth on the 25th and 500-600 in Strid Woods on the 25th.

Serin *Serinus serinus*
1995: A male was recorded at Flamborough on 26th June (PAL).

Greenfinch *Carduelis chloris*
1994: Whilst the breeding status was apparently unchanged some small localised areas may have shown a slight increase. The largest gatherings recorded were 400 at the LDNNR on 28th January and 370 there on the 27th December. 580 flew south at Spurn on the 24th October being the peak of the coastal passage whilst, in the southwest, movement over Strines was very light.
1995: In the absence of any comments breeding status would appear to be unchanged. Many locations reported gatherings of up to 200 in one or both winter periods with the maxima being 600 at Firsby Res. on the 11th January and 300 at an autumn roost on Thorne Moors. Coastal passage was light with the peak at Spurn being 245 on the 16th October whilst, in the southwest, passage over Strines/Redmires was the best for many years with peaks of 146 to the west over Redmires on the 9th October and 270 southwest at Strines Top on the 15th.

Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*
1994: Breeding status apparently unchanged. 320 at TLNR on the 1st October was the largest flock/gathering reported followed by 200 at Broomhill Ings on the 20th August; 200 at Oswaldkirk on the 20th February; 200 at Wheldrake Woods on the 19th March and 200 at Sandall Beat Wood on the 6th February. Coastal passage was very light as was passage over The Pennines in the southwest.

1995: Once more, breeding status, in the absence of any information to the contrary, would appear to be unchanged. Parties of up to 100 were quite widespread, particularly in the west with higher counts being reported from Broomhill Ings where 225 were present on the 4th September; between 150 and 250 on set-aside at Oulton during early September; 150 at Grimethorpe on the 18th September and 150 at Wintersett Res. in January and February. On the 14th September, 198 were counted flying southeast over Kex Gill Quarry whilst, in the southwest, a total of 900 were recorded passing through the Redmires/Strines/Rod Moor area where the peak was 200 on the 30th September over Rod Moor. Good coastal passage was reported from Spurn but only moderate elsewhere. Peak daily counts at Spurn being 232 on the 30th September; 320 on 2nd October; 1020 on the 5th [second highest count for the location] and 740 on the 8th with up to 270 occasionally until the 16th.

Siskin *Carduelis spinus*
1994: No apparent change in breeding status. 200 were reported from Swillington Ings during January with 200+ near Ripon on the 11th November. Passage, in the southwest, was light with a peak count of 90 over Redmires on the 11th September whilst 85 flew east along the Humber, at Sunk Island, on the 22nd September and 135 south along the coast, at Spurn, on the 15th November.
1995: Small numbers were reported breeding at about five, wooded, locations along the southwest moorlands of VC63. In VC61, bred near the car park at Wheldrake Ings with pairs present during the breeding season at Bubwith; Wheldrake; Melbourne and Thornton Ellers. A male was singing at TLNR on the 1st May. No comments were received from VC62; VC64 or VC65. Quite widespread during both winter periods with many locations reporting flocks of up to 100 whilst larger gatherings were reported from Oulton where up to 200 were present during January/February; 220 were at the LDNNR on the 2nd March; 110 at Lindley Wood Res. on the 13th February with 150-200 at Gilling from the 7th to 9th December and 125 at Stainborough/Rockley on the 29th. Passage over the southwestern moors at Redmires/Strines/Rod Moor produced totals of 4000 over Strines/Rod Moor and 900 over Redmires peaking on the 9th October with 210 over Redmires and 200 over Rod Moor. Coastal passage, in autumn, was poor at all locations.

Linnet *Carduelis cannabina*
1994: The decline of this species in the Sheffield area seems to have halted otherwise the status would appear to be unchanged. Coastal passage, at Flamborough, peaked with 725 on the 2nd April and 1320 on the 2nd October whilst, at Spurn, 670 were recorded on the 2nd; 700 on the 24th April and 800 on the 29th September. Increased passage was noted in the southwest with 382 at Strines on the 30th September and 300 over Rod Moor on the 24th October.
1995: Few comments were received on status but, in the York area, considered "less common" at Brandsby; "remains a widespread breeding species [VC64] though probably declining in the west". There is also a tendency of flock sizes decreasing, especially in the west. In VC61, 600 were at Filey, in a linseed field, on the 12th April with 400 still present on the 14th, whilst, in autumn there, 750 were counted on the 29th September [location record]. Peak counts at Flamborough were 500 on the 9th and 14th April then 600 on the 18th September and 500 on the 10th November. Spurn had a maximum during spring passage of 240 on the 29th April and, in autumn, of 410 on 27th September; 960 on the 5th with 820 on the 8th October. On this last date, 760 flew east along the Humber, at Sunk Island. Peak autumnal passage over the southwest moors totalled 4400 over Strines/Rod Moor and 3250 over Redmires with peaks of 750 on the 9th October at the former and 800 on the 5th at the latter. The largest flocks reported were 600 at Firsby Res. on the 26th January and 500 at Bullcroft Tip [VC63] on the 28th January.

Twite *Carduelis flavirostris*
1994: 17 pairs were located by the survey of the Dales NP whilst breeding was also confirmed in VCs 64 and 65, outwith that area. 11 pairs also bred in northern VC63 whilst breeding numbers in the Sheffield area were considered to have been the lowest for many years. 150 reported near Fly Flatts Res. on the 20th August and 120 at Wainstalls on the 24th September

were the largest flocks reported whilst along the coast only small numbers were recorded the largest being; 28 at Flamborough on 6th November; 20 at Spurn on the 8th January and 4th December whilst 19 flew south at Jackson's Bay [Scarborough] on the 19th November.

1995: A breeding survey conducted by English Nature, in the Halifax area, located 26 pairs at three sites, at which 82 young were fledged. No other confirmed breeding records were received. The largest flock, inland, during the early months, was *c.*100 at Digley on the 6th; 19th and 26th April whilst, during the latter months, 70 were at Blackstone Edge on the 23rd September; 65 at Low Trenhouse on the 8th October with 73 at Mt Tabor on the 15th November. Few records from the lowlands whilst, along the coast, up to 30 were at Staithes in January; a total of some 58 between South Gare and Boulby during most of November; 23 at Whitestone Point on the 5th November with smaller numbers elsewhere in VC62. Three inland, in VC61, at Thornton Ellers on the 28th January with four at East Cottingwith on the 18th November whilst, along the Humber, 15 were present at St Andrew's Dock [Hull] during December. 14 were at Filey on the 7th October; ten at Flamborough in late October; 13 on the 2nd November with 25 on the 5th then 13 on the 27th December. Up to 40 were at Barmston occasionally in January whilst, in November, numbers increased to 80 by the 28th with 80 still present on the 1st December and 25 still present on the 22nd. 20 were at the BLPNR on 17th December whilst, at Spurn, up to 15 were reported occasionally during October and early November but between 25 and 40 there from the 11th to the 15th whilst 25 were also there on the 27th December.

Redpoll *Carduelis flammea*

1994: Continues to decline with few breeding records received. Maxima reported were 80 at Ravenfield between the 18th and 20th February and 95 flying west to roost at Redmires on the 19th November; 75+ were at Potteric Carr on the 11th October and up to 60 at Wheldrake Ings in October.

An influx of the nominate race *C.f. flammea* ["Mealy" Redpoll] occurred during the second half of October with up to 12 at Spurn (16th); ten at Grimston (17th) and, at Flamborough, 20 on the 16th; 22 on the 23rd whilst six were at Burniston on the 20th.

1995: "Still at a very low ebb as a breeding bird despite an increase over last year at the LDNNR [York Orn. Club Report]. Small numbers were present in the North Yorks. Moors forests but no definite breeding reports; likewise, in VC64, present but no definite breeding occurrences. In VC63, very little information from the Bradford/Barnsley and Rotherham areas [not thought to have bred]; two pairs in the Sheffield area, at Agden, whilst, in the Halifax area, displaying males were noted at Withens Clough in May, and, at both Digley and Clossley's Plantation [both known breeding locations]. Small numbers were reported during the early months with a maximum of 100 at Timble Ings on the 29th April being unusual. During the latter months, the peak reported was 150 at East Bierley [Bradford] on the 15th October. Autumn passage over the southwestern moors was the best for several years with a total of *c.*1000 peaking on the 15th October when 150 flew over Strines Top and 110 over Redmires.

At the end of October a very large influx of nominate birds *C.f. flammea* ["Mealy" Redpoll] occurred resulting in large flocks at many locations. The largest of these were, in VC61, 200 at Spurn on the 11th November with 250 on the 12th and 200 on the 7th December; 400 along the Humber, at Sunk Island, on the 12th November when 306 were at nearby Cherry Cobb Sands. A record year reported from Flamborough with 78 on the 10th November then 100 on the 11th and 112 on the 12th; 48 were at Filey on the 11th and 75 at South Gare on the 6th December. Many flocks of up to 100 were reported from VC63 during November/December, mainly in the latter month, with the largest parties being 200 at Fishlake on the 24th December; 200 to the east over Thorne Moors on the 7th; 270 at Firsby Res. on the 21st; 240+ at Wymingbrook on the 30th; 200 at Gilroyd in late December; 200+ at Howell, also in late December. Large numbers were ringed at both Wintersett and Finningley Park with, at the former, 229 Mealies and 95 Lesser [plus six Arctic] and, at the latter, 115 Mealies and 84 Lesser [plus three Arctic]. Elsewhere, in VC64, 150 were in a Leeds garden on the 23rd November and 150 at Otley Chevin on 30th December whilst, in VC65, 80 were in Colsterdale on the 10th December.

Arctic Redpoll *Carduelis hornemanni*

1994: Single at Filey on the 16th October (JWC: RFD: SG *et al*).

1995: Accompanying the Mealy Redpolls were a large number of this species. Along the coast the first was reported from Flamborough on the 3rd/4th November then, on the 10th, singles at both Filey and Spurn, the latter remaining until the 12th. One at Hawsker on the 11th was followed by one at Sammy's Point, Kilnsea, on the 12th. The next were singles at South Gare and Scalby on the 5th December with another individual at South Gare on the 6th when one was also at Spurn being seen there the following day. Another individual was trapped at Spurn on the 8th with two more trapped there on the 9th and another on the 10th. Inland, in VC63, concerted ringing efforts at both Wintersett Res. and Finningley Park produced an excellent run of records. At Wintersett Res. the first was a male on the 5th November then no more records until December when a series of first winter birds were reported, all being ringed; one on the 8th; one on the 9th [male]; then on the 16th with two on the 27th (SD: PS: JMT: AP: GS: TC: JMG: PH). At Finningley Park, three first winter birds were trapped; on the 9th December then the 17th and 27th (LJD: DH: NPW: DS). Elsewhere, one at Gilroyd between the 16th and 18th December (GJS *et al*); at Broomhill Ings, a male on the 27th December (DMP: SE: SDS); an unaged bird on 29th (SDS, SE), and a first winter individual on the 31st (NWA: JMT) and one at Thrybergh CP on the 30th (AR: DW: DMB).

Crossbill *Loxia curvirostra*

1994: Although not confirmed as breeding, this species was present in fair numbers in Wykeham Forest whilst smaller numbers were occasionally reported to the west of Sheffield. 21 were near Staithes on the 25th March; 11 south at Grimston on the 29th April then, in August, up to 14 were at TLNR and 12 present in the Broomhead area during the latter months of the year.

1995: Good numbers in the northeast during the early months with up to 12 at Lockwood Beck Res. from the 7th to 22nd January. Up to 19 were in Guisborough Forest from the 1st January to early March whilst 15 were at Kirkleatham on the 16th February and seven at Eston Nab on the 25th February. !2 were in the Broomhead area of VC63 in early January whilst in the east, in VC62, birds were present during the summer months in the Wykeham and Langdale Forests with singing males at Ellerby Moor and Langdale. The maximum in this area being 20 at Wykeham on the 11th June. Two pairs were observed courtship feeding near Broomhead on the 4th March whilst breeding was confirmed at Hardcastle Crags where two separate family parties, totalling 12 birds, were seen on the 31st May. Small numbers in VC64 with seven at Timble Ings on the 12th April and a singing male there on the 29th/30th. Ten plus at Dribley on the 13th November being the maximum reported in that VC. One at Flamborough on the 5th August was the only record from the coast.

Common Rosefinch *Carpodacus erythrinus*

1994: Single birds were at Filey on the 23rd May and at Spurn from the 25th to 28th with an additional two birds at Spurn on the 27th. One at Filey on the 1st June and one at Spurn on the 7th July. Two at Spurn on 1st September, one remaining until the 8th plus another on the 5th. Singles were reported from Flamborough on 15th/16th September and at Spurn on the 19th October.

1995: A pair were present in suitable habitat during the summer and were seen entering the same bush on numerous occasions. Though no young were seen, it was considered by the observers that breeding, or attempted breeding, probably occurred. One at Spurn on the 22nd May; an immature male, singing, at Flamborough on the 26th May with another male there on the 6th June; an immature male, singing, at Port Mulgrave between the 5th and 7th June whilst one sang sporadically, at Spurn, between the 6th and 14th June. One was singing at Filey on the 16th and 17th June being seen nearby on the 18th. One in song at Flamborough on the rather unusual date of the 4th August. Rather more scarce in the autumn with singles at Spurn on the 19th August and 17th September; at Kilnsea on the 3rd September; at Flamborough from the 2nd to 5th; at Hummersea on the 8th and, finally, at Redcar on the 23rd.

Pallas's Rosefinch *Carpodaus roseus*
1994: An adult male near Pateley Bridge on the 2nd; 5th and 6th June (*per* T. Melling). [Still under consideration by the ***BBRC.***]

Bullfinch *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*
1994: Breeding status apparently unchanged. Maxima reported were 30 at Wheldrake Ings during October; 22 at Denaby Ings on 20th March and during November.

An influx of the nominate "Northern" race *P.p. pyrrhula* occurred along the coast in mid-October with up to 14 at Spurn on the 17th; five at Grimston on the 19th ; 19 at Flamborough on the 16th and two at Whitestone Point also on the 16th. One, considered to be of this race, was at Castle Hills [Doncaster] on 20th December.
1995: A slight increase in both the number of reports and birds recorded from the Sheffield area whilst elsewhere, in the absence of any comments, there would appear to be no change in status. It is also considered that this species is under-reported with, for instance, no breeding reports from VC62 excepting near York. The largest flocks reported were all in the Doncaster/Sheffield areas with 30 at Denaby Ings on both the 8th February and 16th December; 20+ at Howell Wood in December; 19 at Firsby Res, on the 9th September and 16 at Thorpe Marsh on the 26th November. The LDNNR held a total of 39 on the 31st December. 14 were in Colsterdale, VC65, on 19th November being by far the largest number reported from that VC.

Individuals attributed to the nominate "Northern" race *P.p. pyrrhula* were not infrequent along the coast with a male at Spurn between the 23rd and 27th April; a female, trapped, at South Gare being present between the 23rd and 30th April; a female at Flamborough on 22nd April was the first spring record for that location. In autumn, one at Flamborough on the 3rd and 4th November whilst a female at Spurn, although not subspecifically identified, would almost certainly have been of this race.

Hawfinch *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*
1994: With the exception of the Sheffield area where this species is considered to have declined, status would appear to be unchanged. Maxima reported were 29 at Roche Abbey on 12th March; 29 at Stainborough on the 14th April with 25 there on the 18th February and 24 on the 1st March. 25 were at Fountains Abbey on the 16th January with 17 at Firbeck on the 3rd April and 11 in Woolley Woods on the 12th March. One at Filey on the 18th September was the first for that location whilst the eighth for Flamborough occurred on the 8th November.
1995: Scarcer than usual in the Sheffield and Doncaster areas whilst, in VC64, only reported from the Harrogate area and said to have had a very poor year in that VC. Pairs were reported from one Doncaster and two Barnsley sites where breeding may have occurred whilst no other reports of breeding/possible breeding were received. The maxima in VC63 were 15 at Stainborough on the 15th January with three singing males there in May, and 11 at Rockley on the 17th January with a juvenile there on the 24th July. Birds were present in Bretton Park between the 12th October and the 29th November with a peak of 19 on the 26th November. Other records from VC63 were of four in Woolley Woods on the 2nd January and 11th March with six at Sprotbrough in February. In VC64, four were at Fountains Abbey on the 2nd January being the peak during the early months whilst 12 were there on the 30th November. One or two were in the Hutton area, VC62, during January/February; up to three at Skelton Castle between the 8th February and 9th May. From mid-March to mid-April a flock of up to 12 frequented the Helmsley Castle area. Very scarce in VC61; one reported on the Warter Estate on the 11th March and one in Kilnsea on the 24th April being the only records received.

Lapland Bunting *Calcarius lapponicus*
1994: Large numbers remained along the coast in the early months following the influx of late 1993. At Filey; 80 on the 8th January with 70 on the 16th; 200 [location record] on the 17th and 120 on the 22nd. Flamborough reported up to 70 during January [2nd] and 60 in February [26th]. 70 were at Grimston on the 8th January whilst up to 35 were at Cromer Point. Only small numbers during the latter months with 15 at Flamborough on the 4th November as the

maximum reported. Two inland records, both concerning single birds, at Blacktoft Sands on the 13th November and at the LDNNR on the 14th October.
1995: Quite scarce during the early months with one to four birds very occasionally at Spurn; Grimston; Barmston; Flamborough and Filey. Larger counts reported were ten to the south at Spurn on the 18th January and five at Grimston on the 14th with ten, also on the 18th. A little more widespread in the latter months, usually in small numbers with records from the above locations plus Atwick; Redcar; South Gare and Hunt Cliff. Seven were at Flamborough on the 11th and 12th November with nine on the 10th December and five on the 24th whilst eight were at Boulby on the 4th November. Away from the coast, singles were at Sunk Island on the 16th September and 21st October; at Blacktoft Sands on the 4th; 14th; 15th and 28th November [same bird?] whilst inland, one was at Hatfield Main on the 22nd January.

Snow Bunting *Plectrophenax nivalis*
1994: Small numbers during the early months with 37 at Filey, on the 24th January, being the highest count. Larger parties were recorded during the latter with maxima of 98 at Port Mulgrave on the 25th November; 80 at Filey on the 27th and 80+ at Grimston on the 24th then, in December, up to 60 present at Spurn. Inland, four were reported at Ewden Beck on the 19th November with singles, on one day only, at Timble Ings; the LDNNR; Bentley; Featherbed Moss; Gorple; Redmires; Strines and Scammonden.
1995: The largest numbers were recorded at South Gare/Coatham Sands where up to 130 were present in January and 160 during February. Smaller parties, up to 30, were occasionally reported during January at Spurn; Barmston; Filey and Staithes. Larger parties were 40 at Grimston on the 2nd January; 61 at Atwick on the 4th and 34 at Hornsea on the 7th. A very similar situation occurred during the latter months with the largest numbers again at South Gare where up to 40 were reported in November and 70 in December. Spurn had 50 on the 25th November with 40 on the 18th December; 40 were on Hornsea beach on the 21st November whilst up to 45 were near Atwick in early December. Singles were reported along the Humber, at Sunk Island, on two occasions in these latter months whilst six were at Cherry Cobb Sands on the 12th November. Inland, in VC62, one was at Roseberry Topping on 20th October; in VC63, singles at Bentley Colliery Tip on the 7th January; Pugneys' CP on the 23rd March; Southfield Res. on the 10th November and Wath Main Marsh on the 9th December. In VC64, one was reported at Hay-a-Park GP on the 14th November with three on Ilkley Moor on the 28th December.

Yellowhammer *Emberiza citrinella*
1994: Again few records from the north and west of the Sheffield area, a traditional stronghold. Elsewhere, no apparent change in status. Maxima reported were 300 at Flamborough on the 16th October; 300 at Burniston on the 27th December and 265 at TLNR on the 8th January.
1995: No comments received from VC65 whilst, in VC64, fewer flocks than usual were recorded with none of those in excess of 50 birds, however, stated as fairly common in the arable areas of the east of that VC. A breeding census by the Doncaster & District Orn. Club [ten mile radius of Doncaster Town Hall] gave a total of 1685 pairs with an estimation of some 2000 pairs. As with all Doncaster area records it is not fully clear how many were actually in the Notts. sector of their reporting area. That the bulk of these breeding birds were in Yorks. is clear plus a greater density was found in the northeast of the district which is less intensively farmed; here some 5.0 pairs per sq. km. were reported against 1.7 per sq. km. in the "prairie" terrain of the Idle valley [Notts.]. The only other comment concerning VC63 came from Sheffield where early year reports suggest that numbers continue to be steady in the eastern lowland part of their area [this part overlaps with the western part of the Doncaster area]. No comments on status were received from VC62 or VC61 though some 160 pairs bred at the LDNNR. Outwith the breeding season many locations reported flocks of up to 50; larger gatherings were at Wilsic with 120 in August; 150 in October and 200 in December; 160 on "set-aside" at Fox Covert in January with 140 in February; 130 at Thorne Ashfields on the 28th January; 130 at Edderthorpe on the 16th September. In VC62, 160 were at Brotton on the 2nd January. Flamborough reported an influx during early November with 160 on the 14th as the

maximum; this influx was not noted elsewhere along the coast.

Female-type birds showing no visible yellow pigment were seen at Flamborough on the 4th and 10th November and, although Pine Bunting, *Emberiza leucocephalos,* was suspected, it should be stated that individuals with similar characteristics occur at that location with some regularity in autumn.

Ortolan Bunting *Emberiza hortulana*

1994: A male was present at Spurn from the 14th to 17th May whilst one flew north, calling, there on the 26th. In autumn, an immature was at Spurn on the 1st September; one at Filey on the 4th; one at Spurn/Kilnsea from the 21st to 28th and one at Flamborough on the 25th with another there on the 17th October.

1995: Singles were reported in spring at Flamborough on the 16th and 18th April plus one at Spurn from the 19th to the 22nd May. Singles, in autumn, were recorded at both Filey and Flamborough on the 3rd September; then at Flamborough on the 9th and 10th with, on the last date, one, possibly, two at Hummersea, then, a late bird, at Flamborough, on the 4th November.

Rustic Bunting *Emberiza rustica*

1994: One, seen briefly, at Filey on the 25th September (JS: JMT).

1995: A female at Flamborough on the 22nd April (DB: PAL: MN).

Little Bunting *Emberiza pusilla*

1994: One, in Kilnsea churchyard, on the 18th September apparently remained in the area until the 24th. Another individual was at Spurn on the 21st and 25th. In October, one, at Spurn, on the 10th and 14th; a second bird on the16th with one of these individuals remaining to the 26th. One flew south there on the 23rd October. One at Filey on the 21st September whilst singles were reported from Flamborough on the 23rd September and the 11th October.

Yellow-breasted Bunting *Emberiza aureola*

1994: A female or first winter bird at Spurn on the 15th September (GED: CR: JPS) with a similar aged individual at Filey on the 16th and 18th. (REH: DJS *et al*).

Reed Bunting *Emberiza schoeniclus*

1994: The decline seems to be slowing and, in some areas, possibly a slight increase has occurred. Some 500 pairs were estimated as having bred at the LDNNR. 75 at Flamborough on the 16th October was an indication of passage.

1995: During the breeding season some 730 pairs were recorded at the LDNNR, seemingly a healthy increase though nowhere else reported such a trend with most areas recording a slow decline or, at best, a stable population. Few reports of breeding were received from VC62 though 11 singing males at Wilson's Marsh, Seamer, was exceptional for a small site. Other breeding records received were of 80 pairs at Blacktoft Sands and 19 singing males at Wintersett Res.; this last being a reduction in numbers. Continues to colonise slowly oil seed rape fields, particularly in VC61. The largest non-breeding parties reported were 60 at Broomhill Ings on the 17th December and 50 at Oulton Beck [Leeds] in late December whilst, in VC61, the roost at Wheldrake Ings increased from 150 on the 13th August to 170+ on the 28th then 200 on the 3rd and 21st September thereafter decreasing to 150+ by mid-October. 80 roosted at nearby North Duffield Carrs on 27th September. Light autumnal passage was noted at Spurn with peaks of 25 on the 5th October and 22 on the 18th.

Corn Bunting *Miliaria calandra*

1994: Still declining being reported as now absent from many western areas of VC64. 170 at Thornton Ellers on the 27th November was the maximum recorded with 80 at Broomhill Ings on the 23rd January; up to 50 at Flamborough during January/February and up to 70 at Loversall Carr in September.

1995: Continues to decline in almost all areas, the LDNNR reporting a low, but apparently, stable population of 39 singing males. Elsewhere, in the York Orn. Soc. area, it was stated that

"the crash which became apparent around Brandsby is now all too evident in the Strensall; Sheriff Hutton; Stillington and Sutton-on-the-Forest areas". In several parts of the York district it is now possible to cycle the area and fail to hear a single song. In VC63, the Doncaster & District Orn. Soc. conducted a survey locating 365 singing males with an estimated breeding population of 380 to 400 pairs [*c.*55 being in the Idle valley (Notts.)]. The BTO survey of 1993 gave a density of 0.44 territories per sq. km. for Yorkshire, being the highest density of anywhere in mainland Britain. The Doncaster area gave a density of 0.48 per sq. km. thus this area is of great significance both in regional and national terms. Elsewhere in VC63, this species is declining rapidly in the Barnsley area whilst none were reported in the Bradford; Halifax and Huddersfield areas. In VC64, the decline continues and is now, nowhere common and actually, is just hanging on in a few pockets in the eastern parts of this VC. Only small numbers were reported singing in VC62 with four near Boulby and four in the Redcar/Marske areas with singles at three other locations as well as a few near York. Few records were received from VC61 excepting the LDNNR. Outwith the breeding season, the largest flocks reported in VC61 were 65 at Flamborough on the 22nd January with 90 there on both the 5th and 18th February. During the latter months 60 were at Flamborough on the13th November with 50 on the 9th December; 40 were at Filey on the 3rd January then 50 on the 5th February. 40 at Atwick on the 12th December with 30 at Meaux on the 14th. In the York area, 80 were at Aughton on the 9th January; 100+ at Wilberfoss on the 22nd and 91 at Breighton Airfield on the 29th. In VC62, 50+ at Cornelian Bay on the 4th January and, in VC63, 70 at Pot Hills Marsh, Upton, on the 8th January; 90 at Harthill Res. on the 16th January with 80 there on the 26th November and 135+ on the 19th December. 60 at Loversall Carr during early March and *c.*200 at Southfield Res. on the 11th/12th February. No more than eight at any locality in VC64 with, in VC65, only Nosterfield reporting any numbers; 40 being present there on the 20th January; 30 on the 12th February and 20 on the 22nd March.

The Need for Field Descriptions.

It is our aim to continue to present these reports with complete accuracy so that those who use them in the future may accept the records of all species without doubt or query.

To maintain this accuracy, contributors are reminded that all records of rare or uncommon and difficult species are considered by the Reports Committee before being accepted for publication and where appropriate, forwarded to the *British Birds* Rarities Committee for their decision.

The work of the Reports Committee can be aided considerably if observers will submit descriptions as soon as possible after the bird has been seen. Details should include the description taken in the field before reference to any text books; the locality; date and time; habitat; weather conditions; optical aids used; distance from the bird; period of observation; species present for comparison, if any, and previous experience of the species. Forms based upon those by *British Birds* Rarities Committee can be obtained from any Vice-County Recorder for submitting details of any of the species listed below.

Cory's Shearwater
Great Shearwater
Mediterranean Shearwater
Storm Petrel [sight records]
Leach's Petrel
Little Egret
Purple Heron
White Stork
Bean Goose
Ring-necked Duck
Ferruginous Duck
Surf Scoter
Honey Buzzard
Red Kite
Montagu's Harrier
Rough-legged Buzzard
Golden Eagle
Spotted Crake
Corncrake
Common Crane
Stone Curlew
Kentish Plover
Temminck's Stint
Pectoral Sandpiper
Buff-breasted Sandpiper
Red-necked Phalarope
Grey Phalarope
Pomarine Skua [inland records only]
Long-tailed Skua [inland records only]
Ring-billed Gull
Sabine's gull
Roseate Tern
Black Guillemot
Bee-eater
Short-toed Lark
Woodlark
Richard's Pipit
Tawny Pipit
Cetti's Warbler
Savi's Warbler
Aquatic Warbler
Marsh Warbler
Icterine Warbler
Melodious Warbler
Dartford Warbler
Barred Warbler
Pallas's Warbler
Red-breasted Flycatcher
Golden Oriole
Woodchat Shrike
Chough
Serin
Common Rosefinch
Cirl Bunting
Ortolan Bunting
Little Bunting

British Birds Rarities

A complete list of species, descriptions of which are required by *British Birds* before publication in their Annual Report on Rare Birds in Great Britain, was last published in *British Birds*, Vol 81 [1988] number 9, pages xv and xvi.

Races and other unusual occurrences.

The Reports Committee may request descriptions to support records of well-defined races of common species, or to support records of migrant birds out of season and commoner birds seen in unusual circumstances.

Rare breeding Birds in Yorkshire.
Observers who have first-hand knowledge of rare breeding birds within the county are requested to submit their evidence to the appropriate Vice-County Recorder; report Editor or direct to the Rare Breeding Birds Panel, if the observer so wishes. The system used by the Panel for indicating geographical locations is done on a regional basis with Yorkshire being part of "England North'. In some instances the county will be named but should the observer request omission of "Yorkshire" this will be respected by the Panel with only the region being named. A full list of the species considered by the Panel appeared in ***British Birds*** 81: 102-103. Speies that are known to have bred or attempted to have done so in recent years, in Yorkshire, are listed below.

Black-necked Grebe	Quail
Little Bittern	Corncrake
Pintail	Avocet
Garganey	Ruff
Pochard	Black-tailed Godwit
Honey Buzzard	Little Gull
Marsh Harrier	Golden Oriole
Montagu's Harrier	Fieldfare
Goshawk	Bluethroat
Hobby	Black Redstart
Parrot Crossbill	Common Rosefinch

In addition, brief outline details of numbers of Schedule I species are requested [area; numbers and success].

Panel report forms are available from the Report Editor or direct from the RB Panel. [Dr M. A. Ogilvie, Secretary, RBBP, Glencairn, Bruichladdich, Isle of Islay, PA49 7UN].

Local Reports

The following local society and club reports for 1994 and/or 1995 have been received and those readers requiring more information on those areas are advised to consult the relevant report.
Barnsley Area Bird Report [Barnsley Bird Study Group]
Birds in Huddersfield [Huddersfield Birdwatchers' Club]
Birds in Sheffield [Sheffield Bird Study Group]
Bradford Naturalists' Society
Bradford Ornithological Group
Castleford and District Naturalists' Society
Doncaster Bird Report [Doncaster & District Ornithological Society]
Filey Brigg Bird Report [Filey Brigg Ornithological Group]
Flamborough Bird Report [Flamborough Ornithological Group]
Grassington Field Society
Halifax Birdwatchers' Club
Harrogate & District Naturalists' Society
Leeds Birdwatchers' Club
Rotherham & District Ornithological Society
South Holderness Countryside Society [Newsletters]
Sorby Natural History Society [Newsletters]
The Birds of SK58
Tophill Low Nature Reserve
Wharfedale Naturalists' Society
York Bird Report [York Ornithological Club].

Reports and lists were also received from individuals or groups for their particular local area, being as follows: Barlow Common: Barmston: Beacon Ponds/Easington/Holderness Log: Blacktoft Sands: Broomhill Ings: Bolton-on-Swale: Malham Tarn: Mickletown Ings: Pugneys'

CP.: Pulfin Bog; Selby District; Swillington Ings; Wintersett Res.. Yorkshire Dales National Park.

The following is a list of observers who contributed to the Classified List with apologies for any omissions]. The co-operation of these observers and the very many others who submit records to their local societies is very much appreciated. J. & J. Ackroyd; P. Adams; N. W. Addey; D. Adkin; J. Alderton; C. Allan; A. M. Allport; V. Amos; M. Anderson; J. Anderton; R. H. Appleby; D. Appleton; B. Armitage; J. S. Armitage; J. Armstrong; M. R. K. Askew; W. Aspin; A. Atkinson; G. Atkinson; Miss J. E. Atkinson; I. Austin; M. Ayers; D. J. Bamford; D. C. Barker; T. J. Barker; K. Barnes; R. Barnes; M. Barnett; D. Barras; K. Barrow; S. Barrow; S. Bartlett; L. C. Batten; G. M. Batten; F. Baudet; J. M. & R. G. Bayldon; the late D. Beaumont; J. Beaumont; P. R. Beaumont; P. A. Beckingham; M. A. Beevers; N. A. Bell; A. Benton; G. R. Bennett; M. Bennett; I. Beveridge; D. P. Binns; S. Bird; P. Bland; M. A. Blick [MABl]; A. Botterill; W. I. Boustead; R. Bovill; D. J. Bowes; M. & T. Bradbury [M&TBr]; P. Bradshaw; A. D. Brigham; J. D. H. Brown; M. P. Brown; C. Buckroyd; H. O. Bunce; J. Burnham; P. Bush; M. Butt; A. S. Butler; D. Bye; D. Bywater [DBy]; I. Cameron; F. A. F. Cammish; T. Cantwell; G. Carr; G. C. Carr; D. Carroll; M. J. Carroll; N. Carter; Miss S. Chalders; G. Chapman; R. E. Chapman; C. Charles; L. Charlton; T. G. Charlton; M. Chase; S. Chester; W. A. Clark; E. G. Clark; J. C. Clarkson; K. Clarkson; J. Clay; J. M. Clay; E. W. Clubley; A. Clunas; M. Cochrane; S. Cochrane [SCo]; B. Cockerill; A. Cockroft; J. D. Coldwell; A. Collins; T. Collins; A. Collinson; K. Colwood; D. Constantine [DCo]; D. Cooper; J. W. Cooper; T. I. Corbett; M. Corner; M. Coverdale [MCo]; D. Cowton [DCn]; P. & J. Crowther; J. Cudworth; M. Cunningham; P. Cunningham; W. F. Curtis; Mrs. J. Dale; J. E. Dale; S. Davis; P. Daw; A. Dawson; N. C. Dawtrey; G. Dayes; L. J. Degnan; K. Denny; S. Denny; M. L. Denton; A. B. Devitt; T. G. Dewdney; R. F. Dickens; I. H. Dillingham; K. Dillon [KDi]; A. S. Disley; M. J. Dixon; T. E. Dixon; G. E. Dobbs; C. Dodsworth; J. Doe; J. Donnelly; P. Dove; J. Downs; R. Eckersley; J. R. Edwards; R. Elliot; S. Elliott; T. M. England; R. Evison; S. Exley; C. Fairchild; G. P. Falshaw; S. Farish; M. Feather [MFe]; C. Featherstone; A. B. Feenley; T. Feltham; H. & V. Fielding; E. A. Fisher; K. Fitzgerald; G. T. Foggitt; M. Foggitt; K. Follows; A. Forsyth; I. Forsyth; M. Francis [MFr]; P. Francis; H. & M. Frost; R. Fuller; J. M. Gardner; M. G. H. Garnett; L. Gascham; K. H. Gerhardsen; A. Gibson; G. Giggal; L. Gillard; J. Gillon; I. Glaves; G. Glendinning; J. H. Goddard; S. J. Goodwin; G. Gorman; A. G. Gough; K. R. Gould; S. Graham; A. Grayson; P. K. Greaves; S. Green; A. Grieve; D. Grist; J. Grist; M. J. Grunwell; S. Gwilliam; P. Hack; J. Hague; G. L. Haigh; M. Hall; J. Hamilton; R. E. Harbird; I. Hargreaves; J. Harriman; C. Harris; P. Harrison; J. Harwood [JHa]; M. Hayes; K. J. Hayhow; R. A. Haywood; D. Hazard; D. Heagney; E. Hediger; S. Hepton; W. J. Hesketh; J. Hewitt; S. Hey; B. Hill; R. D. Hill; W. Hill; P. J. & S. J. Hirley; A. Hirst; D. G. Hobson; T. L. Hobson; S. N. Hodson; I. A. Hogg; C. Hoggarth; G. Holdsworth; S. T. Holliday; R. D. Holloway; G. Holmes; M. Holmes; D. Holroyd; R. A. Hopkinson; R. A. Hopper; D. A. Hunter; D. Hursthouse; C. Iceton; P. V. Irving; A. Isherwood; T. Isherwood; P. W. Izzard; C. Jackson; J. Jackson; E. T. James; T. James; D. Jardine; A. Johnson; A. Jowett; S. Keen; M. Keighley; T. Kendall; P. Kenyon; G. Kershaw; B. M. Keywood; R. Khan; E. M. & I. G. Kidd; P/King; H. R. Kirk; M. Kitching; R. Knight [RKn]; T. Knight [TKn]; T. Kuechel; M. Lacey; J. C. Lamplough; P. A. Lassey; J. Law; M. P. Lawlor; T. R. Lawson; G. Leach; H. M. Lealman; W. M. Lealman; M. Leakey; G. Lee; B. Leecy; P. Leonard; T. Lewis; R. Light; M. Limbert; S. M. Lister; V. A. Lister; D. M. Lloyd; M. Lynes; R. Lyon; I. Marshall; J. Martin; S. Martin; P. R. Massey; C. & J. Massingham; J. R. Mather; C. Mawer; W. McKay; J. McLoughlin [JMc]; P. Meredith; D. R. Middleton; P. Middleton [PMl]; S. C. Mines; F. X. Moffat; K. Moir; C. Moore; A. D. Morgan; D. Morgan; N. J. Morgan; P. R. Morris; P. Mountain [PMo]; P. L. Mountain; S. Mulkeen; P. Musgrove [PMu]; G. W. Myers; M. G. Neal; C. Needham; B. Newby; M. Newsome; P. Newton; S. C. Norman; A. Norris; J. O'Malley; A. N. O'Neill; P. Ottoway; J. K. Pallister; D. Page; H. Parker; N. E. Parker; S. Pashby; D. M. Pearce; J. M. Pearson; C. J. Pendlebury; B. Penistone; P. Pirringer; D. M. Pogson; J. A. Pollintine; J. D. Pope; A. Porter; S. Powell; N. A. Preston; M. V. Priestley; W. H. Priestley; D. Proctor; S. Radcliffe; B. Rains; J. Rawcliffe; S. C. Renouf; A. Rhodes; T. Rhodes [TRh]; K. Rich; B. Richards; D. Richardson;

T. Richardson; T. Riley; A. Roadhouse; I. W. Roberts; C. Roberts; M. Roberts; I. Robinson; N. J. Robinson; P. Robinson; S. J. Roddis; R. Roe; A. J. Ross; M. H. Rowntree; P. J. Roworth; D. A. Rushworth; J. Sanderson; D. J. Scanlon [DJSc]; P. M. Scanlon; H. Schielzeth; G. Scott; R. Scott; T. Scott; R. Scullion; J. Scurr; A. Scutt; K. Senior; N. P. Senior; J. L. Sharp; B. Sharrock; D. Shawcroft; J. P. Siddle; D. Simpson; S. P. Singleton; R. S. Slack; A. V. H. Smith; J. L. Smith; P. Smith; B. Smithson; T. Smollett; S. Snook; L. J. Sollitt; B. R. Spence; G. J. Speight; R. J. Sprakes; D. J. Standring; S. D. Stansfield; J. Stockill; P. Stones; A. Stonier; C. Stoppford; D. J. Sutcliffe; P. Sutton; D. & J. Sykes; G. Taylor; R. C. Taylor; S. A. Taylor; C. C. Thomas; D. J. C. Thomas; G. Thomas; M. Thomas; C. Thompson; E. Thompson; P. Tomlinson; J. L. Topham; J. L. Toth; I. Traynor; P. T. Treloar; J. M. Turton; M. Tythe; R. & M. Vaughan; G. Vause; H. A. Vilkaitis; D. M. Waddington; I. D. Walker; G. V. Walker; R. V. Walker; C. Wall; D. I. M. Wallace; J. Ward; R. M. Ward; F. A. Wardman; D. Warburton; J. C. Wasse; G. Watola; Mrs J. Webb; M. C. Wells; T. Weston; A. White; A. Whitehead; H. J. Whitehead; N. P. Whitehouse; D. Whiteley; S. Wighill; J. Wilcox; J. Wild; C. Wilkinson; D. J. Williams; P. J. Willoughby; A. H. Wilson; J. Woodisse; D. Woodmansey; S. Worwood; J. Wozencroft [JWo]; G. Wright; K. Wright; A. Zabukas.

Notes

Printed by Titus Wilson & Son, Kendal